Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Alabama

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 1, 1938

# REDS DOMINATE RELIEF, IS CHARGE TO LEGISLATORS

## Communists And Other Radical Elements In Power And Favoritism Shown By DPW To Negroes, Williams Says

BY FRED TAYLOR

Sensational charges that Communists and other radical groups dominated the Public Welfare Department in Birmingham and over Alabama were made before Jefferson County's legislative delegation last night at the courthouse by T. P. Williams, past president of the Pratt City Eagles and pioneer old age pension worker, in a plea for better administration of the pension law in this state.

At the same time sweeping government reforms, including consolidation of the city and county at an estimated savings of $1,300,000 the first year, elimination of personal property taxes, termed a 'nuisance," reorganization of the Board of Review into a full - time body and centralization of state purchases and purchases in all counties, were recommended to Senator James A. Simpson and House nominees at the weekly session.

**Williams charged that Negroes had been and were still being shown "partiality" over white persons by the Welfare Department here, in urging that the delegation "clean out" the DPW. He asserted that relief workers were being organized by the thousands into unions, declaring that "very few in government relief work remain neutral, while others range from pink to red."**

The old age pension champion, who battled for enactment of the present Alabama law, authored by Senator Simpson, charged further that these groups (Communists and other radicals) had gained control of relief bureaus in practically every state, county and city of the nation. He cited the Workers Alliance, WPA union, as among the organizations the relief workers had joined.

As to his statement regarding Negroes being given preference over white persons in the handling of relief, Williams declared that "any Negro can go and get a hearing" (before the board), but that "it is hard as the very devil for any white man to get a decent hearing." He asserted further that "a certain widely known Communist who boasted that he was a Communist had gotten everything he ever asked for before the board."

Williams said the work of the Dies committee in investigating un-American activities had revealed much of what he charged with regard to other states.

**Pointing out that old-age pension advocates had succeeded in getting a law passed in every state, Williams asserted that improper administration was the main fault with the law in Alabama.**

"They are not administering the law as it is written right here in Jefferson County," declared Williams, in citing that insurance policy affidavits were being accepted as proof of ages of pension claimants.

Williams also asserted welfare departments in Jefferson and other counties are "overrun with professional social workers."

Williams not only recommended "cleaning out" of the D. P. W. of Communists and radicals," but submitted for proposals in behalf of old-age pensions in this state as follows:

1. Take the handling of the pensions out of hands of D. P. W.

2. Make it compulsory, rather than optional, for counties to pay old-age pensions and require county governing bodies to approve relief applications.

3. Provide ways and means for the state to take over almshouses in four or five of the larger counties, such as Jefferson, Montgomery and Mobile, and turn them into hospitals for care and treatment of aged.

4. Abolish pauper clause in present old-age pension law.

**Merger of the city and county governments was proposed by William R. Doak, of 1316 Huntsville Road, who cited economies that could be effected and pointed to the steadily increasing bonded debt of both city and county.**

The city's debt climbed from $20,036,000 in 1934 to $22,007,000 in 1938, he said, while the county's bonded debt was increased from $11,052,000 in 1934 to $12,286,500 in 1938. These and other obligations of the city and county now total $36,000,000, Doak pointed out to the delegation.

Doak also cited the "invisible county of Bessemer," in referring to Bessemer Cutoff, and pointed out the extra expense incurred by the county because of its division. Under his consolidation plan, Doak would set up a city and county manager, supervised by separate boards, have one law enforcement body, thus eliminating the present law enforcement duties of the sheriff, place all convicts under one supervision and divide the combined city and county into four zones to be known as East, West, North and South zones. He also would discard the present City Hall and use the new courthouse to house the combind governments.

Doak challenged the right of the State and County Democratic Executive Committees to collect qualifying fees or place what he termed an "imposition tax" on candidates for public office in requesting the delegation to amend the present law to prohibit collection of such fees. He asserted the present practice was in violation of constitutional rights and denied the man or woman of small means the right to qualify for any of the major public offices.

**Tax Assessor Roy Johnson, long an advocate of a full-time Board of Review, termed the present board composed of three county commissioners and assessor a "farce," called the present system of assessing and collecting personal property taxes a "nuisance" and suggested the elimination of personal property taxes.**

Johnson urged that the board, which is charged with fixing property tax values in this county, be taken out of politics and made a full-time body, asserting, "I don't think any political body should have anything to do with the fixing of tax values."

The assessor recommended that a full-time three-member board, to be composed of one member appointed by the county governing body, another by the city governing body and another by the governor or State Tax Commission, be created, with members to be paid salaries and required to give their full time to year-round hearing of tax matters.

As an alternative, Johnson proposed the Wisconsin plan, which provides for state tax zones for equalization of assessments as to counties to prevent one county, such as Jefferson, from bearing too heavy an ad valorem tax burden, which Johnson asserted was true of this county.

Recommending elimination of personal property taxes, Johnson pointed out that total personal property assessments in this county, with exception of business property such as stocks and bonds, amounted only to about $4,000,000, adding that not more than 300 persons, outside those who assess real estate, actually assess personal property, although virtually every person owns personal property. He cited as example that a few years ago more than $900,000 worth of jewelry was assessed in this county, whereas now only little more than $100,000 worth is assessed.

The assessor made various other recommendations, including a time limit for claiming homestead exemptions, for the delegation's consideration.

**Hugh A. Powell, city industrial water supply engineer and employe in the State Purchasing Department under Gov. Miller, urged the establishment of a state procurement office to effect a more business-like handling of public purchasing, with the provision that counties be privileged to come under the system. He said much could be saved the state through such a centralized purchasing system.**

In his economy proposal, Powell urged that duties of the state textbook purchasing committee be transferred to the central purchasing unit suggested.

House Nominee Sid Smyer sought to determine from Powell that textbooks cost more in Alabama than in other states, but Powell said he "knew very little about that."

H. A. Bryant, Tarrant fire chief headed a committee from that municipality, asking that civil service be extended to include and protect Tarrant employes, citing the fact that there are 21 employes that would come under the merit system. He also asked that a plan be worked out to provide pension benefits for these employes, that jobs be made interchangeable without loss of seniority between city and county employes and that the civil service act be amended to include fire and police chiefs.

William Bondurant, city fire inspector, apprised the delegation a committee of firemen had conferred with the City Commission regarding a pension plan and would present it to the group later. He also urged that the civil service law be amended so that promotion would be based on seniority.

A. E. (Chick) Olsen recommended standardization of marketing laws for poultry and poultry products; L. V. Hughes urged approval of Judge J. Fritz Thompson's plan to require serving jurors' summons by sheriff's deputies rather than by registered mail, except for slight changes; George Clayton, former grand juror, recommended that pay of jurors be fixed at a flat $5 per day, without mileage allowances, that verdicts be rendered in all except capital cases by nine out of 12 jurors and that pay of jury bailiffs be raised from $150 to $200 monthly.

Sam Douglass, representing the sign painters' union, urged repeal of advertising restrictions in the liquor bill, with Jim Driver, electricians' union business agent, and Roy Copeland, president, Birmingham Building Trades Council, voicing like requests, and Lewis Cato, attorney, and John Rolston recommended that rents collected on land bought by the state for taxes be applied to help redeem property.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
November 9, 1938

# CHEST GROUPS CHEERED BY GENEROUS RESPONSE

Encouraged by a clear and brisk "Indian Summer" day and the fine progress made during the first day of the general canvass Monday, thousands of volunteers for the sixteenth annual appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County's Community Chest again took the field Tuesday morning, and soon encouraging reports were received at campaign headquarters, 1804 First Avenue, North.

The grand total received up to Tuesday night at headquarters was stated to be approximately $164,558.31. It was pointed out that a staff of auditors are at work late each night auditing contributions brought in by the volunteers during the day, and the official audit as completed each morning represents everything actually turned in and officially audited up to the previous night.

The grand total up to Tuesday morning, officially receipted and audited at campaign headquarters, 1804 First Avenue, North, was $147,353.22, which is 31.6 per cent of the appeal's minimum quota of $466,757.44.

The commercial division, which is expected to raise $234,841.01, or 51 per cent of the entire appeal quota Tuesday morning was officially credited with $83,455.11, or 35.5 per cent of its quota, of which the western section had raised $26,106.62, or 27.1 per cent of its quota, and the eastern section was credited with $57,348.49, or 41.3 per cent of its quota.

### Standings Shown

Other divisions Tuesday morning stood as follows: Women's division, $13,639.75, or 42.4 per cent of quota; industrial, $44,252,21, or 26.7 per cent of quota; Bessemer, $500, or 5.6 per cent of quota; Leeds, $150, or 9 per cent of quota; Tarrant City, $6 or 1.2 per cent of quota; Warrior $50, or 31.3 per cent of quota; headquarters, $4,798.35, or 59.4 per cent of quota; Negroes, $301,80, or 13.4 per cent of quota.

A series of group meetings in behalf of this chest appeal will open Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. with a meeting of employes of the New Williams Store, at which Judge Leigh Clark will speak.

The North Birmingham Lions Club, meeting at 12:30 p.m. Thursday, at the North Birmingham Hotel, also will devote a part of its program to the Community Chest Appeal, and Dr. Henry M. Edmonds, pastor of the Independent Presbyterian Church, will speak over Station WAPI at 9 a.m. Thursday.

Francis W. Sheppard, chairman of the commercial division, reported additional increases over last year's subscriptions on the part of mercantile establishments and their employes organizations. Among those turned in Tuesday was one from Sokol Brothers Furniture Store and employes, showing an increase of more than double their contribution of last year.

### One Quota Completed

Mrs. Frank Bainbridge, chairman of the western territory of the women's division, received what she said was the first real thrill of the campaign when she was called on the telephone at campaign headquarters by Miss Ignacia Giaggina, who is a volunteers in the Moore School area, in and around Seventeenth Street, Ensley, who informed Mrs. Bainbridge that she had already reached 100 per cent of her quota and had not yet covered half of her territory. She and her associate volunteers will keep right on with the house-to-house canvass until the territory has been completely covered. Miss Giaggina has been a volunteer solicitor in that section of the city in several chest appeals.

Members of the Junior League are reported taking a strong interest in the Community Chest, and this year a large group is conducting a house-to-house canvass in the Lakeview School section, according to Miss Harriet Throckmorton, cochairman of the eastern territory of the women's division. Another group is doing volunteer office work at campaign headquarters, and, in fact, the whole organization is subject to call for any service they can render to make this chest appeal a success.

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 14, 1938

# CUT IN EXPENSES IS HELD POSSIBLE

## Abolition Of Commissioners Would Go Into Effect After Terms End

BY FRED H. TAYLOR

Plans for establishing managership forms of government in Birmingham and Jefferson County will be presented to Senator James A. Simpson and other members of the legislative delegation tonight by George D. Patterson, Jr., Birmingham attorney and member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce legislative committee.

Patterson, who is chairman of a council-manager committee composed of a number of citizens here, said his discussion would be devoted largely to the plan for a city managership to replace the present commissions. The plans call for five. Such a setup, he contends, would save many thousands of dollars annually in operation of the city government.

Certain members of the legislative delegation reportedly favor creation of city and county managerships to supplant the present three-member commission. The plans call for five-member supervisory boards, members of which would not be paid more than $50 a month each, to supervise work of managers.

It has been estimated that more than $20.000 a year could be saved in operation costs through enactment of such plans, it being pointed out that the three county commissioners are paid $6,000 a year each, while the city governing body president is paid $8,000, and the two associates $7,000 each.

Delegation members have made it plain, however, that the managership plans would not be installed until after expiration of terms of the present city commissioners and terms of the three incoming county commissioners who take office in January.

Among others to appear before the delegation at its courthouse meeting, which gets under way at 7:30 p.m., are Ed F. Taylor, of Montgomery, House clerk, who is a candidate for reelection to the post, in opposition to R. T. (Bob) Goodwyn, Jr., Montgomery attorney, who reportedly is Gov.-Elect Frank M. Dixon's choice for the clerkship.

Tram Sessions, delegation secretary, said he had received a letter from Taylor which sharply criticized Goodwyn's record as a "hand-picker" and "pie-eater," and it was understood copies of this letter had been sent to other House members from Jefferson. Sessions said he understood Taylor, who requested an audience with the Jefferson delegation several days ago, also would present the group an itemized statement of fees and earnings of the clerk.

Some political observers have characterized the House clerk race between Goodwyn and Taylor a continuation of the Dixon-Graves fight. The Graves forces, who elected Taylor clerk, want to reelect him over Dixon's reputed choice to embarrass the incoming governor at the outset of his administration, they contend.

Raymond E. Thomason, D. P. W. board member, will appear before the delegation to reiterate his denial of charges that the Department of Public Welfare here is dominated by "Communists and other radicals" and that Negroes are given preference in handling of relief claims.

Mabel Jones West, active in politics here a number of years, also will appear before the delegation in connection with the handling of welfare work, Sessions said.

C. W. Pratt is scheduled to appear to discuss the alcohol beverage control law, the secretary said.

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 14, 1938

# SOCIAL SERVICE SCHOOL TALKED

## Pastors Union Considers Plan To Train Workers For Duty In City

A movement was launched this morning at a meeting of the Birmingham Pastors Union to establish a social service school, where instruction could be given social workers from the city, state and nation.

The object of this school would be no train workers to go among the non-chuch members of the city and contact them in an effort to bring them into the church.

Another proposal adopted by the pastors was for a religious survey of Birmingham, not by the churches as a whole, but with the churches in the individual communities making the canvass. It was also provided that closer relations between members of white and Negro churches should be fostered. Still another proposal was that of establishing a girls club in the city similar to the boys club. All of these proposals were referred to the Union Social Service Committee.

A number of new pastors and vistors were introduced.

The Rev. E. H. Carlton, former vice president, presided and after the business of the session had been disposed of, Mr. Carlton, introduced the new officers, Dr. E. H. Wyle, pastor of the First Christian Church, president; Dr. A. W. Dycer, pastor of the Pilgrim Congregational Church, vice president, and D. R. Price, secretary of the Birmingham Sunday School Council, reelected secretary.

Dr. Wyle announced the names of the standing committees, the chairmen being Dr. W. A. Alexander, of the program committee; Dr. John H. Buchanan, the social service committee; evangelism, Dr. M. A. Franklin; radio, Dr. A. W. Dycer; hearing, Dr. H. M. Edmonds; Y. M. C. A., Dr. J. M. Broady.

Dr. Wyle, in his inaugural address, used as his theme, "The Man Against the Sky," borrowed from Edward Arlington Robinson's poem of the same name.

# First Lady Pays Smithfield Court A Second Visit

During her second visit to Birmingham last week, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt paid a second visit to Smithfield Court Housing Project. The project was under construction during her 1937 visit to the city. The above picture shows the first lady inspecting the home of Mrs. Idella Brown, 56 9th Avenue, North. She asked many questions about the project and seemed pleased with the comfort it offers. It was the first project visited by Mrs. Roosevelt during her visit here.

—Photo courtesy The Birmingham News.

# NEEDS OF 4000 STILL UNSOLVED

## Government Is Sending Foodstuffs Here For Temporary Relief

Foodstuff from the Government was on its way to Birmingham today to offset, at least temporarily, the threat of starvation facing 4000 families in Jefferson County, but there was nothing to indicate that the problem of these families was any nearer a permanent solution.

Not only was it announced that the Works Progress Administration here could not raise its quota of workers, but it was revealed that the WPA is being forced to cut down on its payroll because of a curtailment in appropriations.

The continued regular curtailment of WPA jobs has not worked an additional hardship, W. G. Hudson, head of WPA here, said, because ratio of the increase of jobs in private employment is taking care of them.

But the plight of the 4000 heads of families, representing 15,000 persons, who have been out of work now for two months, remains unchanged. They are unable to find jobs in private employment and there is no work for them with the WPA.

Miss Loula Dunn, head of the State Department of Public Welfare, said she has been assured that the Federal Surplus Commodities Corp. would send additional foodstuff into this area for the needy. The agency handles principally flour, canned goods and vegetables, but no meat or milk.

The plight of these 4000 families had initiated activity in their behalf by civic leaders. This was climaxed by a meeting last night at the City Hall which was attended by Aubrey Williams, assistant PWA administrator, city and county commissioners and DPW officials. Mr. Williams declared that the county must depend on private industry to take care of these families.

Raymond Thomason, member of the DPW Board, urged citizens to bring pressure upon Washington to raise the WPA quota.

* * *

## Foodstuffs Are Diverted To City

Sen. Lister Hill wired Mrs. George Lewis Bailes, district manager of the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs, that several carloads of foodstuffs from the Surplus Commodity Corp., bound for other places, had been diverted to Birmingham to meet the crisis here. They will bring here 3600 gallons of syrup; 60,000 pounds of lima beans; 1000 cases of evaporated milk; and one or two carloads of flour.

Birmingham, Ala. Post
November 22, 1938

# CHEST APPEAL WIND-UP BEGUN

## Three Days Are Allotted To Raise Remaining 11.5 Per Cent Of Goal

With $413,020.74 (88.5 per cent) of the quota already pledged, Community Chest solicitors today inaugurated a three-day wind-up drive for funds.

Chest books for the 16th Annual Appeal will be officially closed Wednesday night, Robert Gregg, appeal chairman, announced.

Today, 13 campaign days since the appeal began on Nov. 7, the following Chest divisions have been credited with collecting the following amounts:

Commercial, $222,352; women's, $31,658; industrial, $133,127; Bessemer, $8225; Homewood, $838; Leeds, $1592; Tarrant, $188; city schools, $5465; county schools, $1400; headquarters ,$6101; Negro, $1497.

Chest headquarters today reported volunteer firemen at Warrior had made a special gift contribution of $20, a sum received by them last week for extinguishing a fire in a Warrior residence.

Another report from headquarters stated the members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers' Union, a Congress of Industrial Organizations affiliate, had voted to pay the Chest $150 out of their union treasury.

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 19, 1938

# CLEANUP CAMPAIGN NEARING FOR CHEST

## *General Canvassing On Monday Will Be Followed By Final Drive*

General canvassing for the sixteenth annual appeal of the Birmingham and Jefferson County Community Chest will be completed Monday, following which Tuesday and Wednesday will be devoted to a final "cleanup" of the campaign, officials have announced.

Closing days of the appeal were announced Friday at a meeting at campaign headquarters, 1804 First Avenue, North. One of the major divisions of the appeal will not be able to fulfil its quota, Robert Gregg, general chairman, pointed out, and urged other divisions to cover the deficit.

Saturday special groups were busy rechecking various territories for persons missed on previous visits. Volunteer solicitors have assured General Chairman Gregg and A. Key Foster, co-chairman, they will complete the minimum quota set at $466,757.44.

Another street team in the western territory of the commercial division has "gone over the top"—the team of Bob Goodall and Charles Doster, who had the territory from First Avenue, West, to Twentieth Street.

In the general campaign, an audit Friday night showed $406,366.22 of the desired $466,757.44, or 87.1 per cent of the quota.

Figures on the standing of each division are as follows:

Commercial division, $220,190.76, or 93.9 per cent of its quota; women, $31,074.82, or 94.7 per cent; industrial, $129,589.97, or 78.2 per cent; Bessemer, $8,225,66, or 91.3 per cent; Homewood, $766.05, or 95.7 per cent; Leeds, $1,592.93, or 95.1 per cent; Tarrant City, $572.20, or 119.1 per cent; Warrior, $179.60, 112.4 per cent; Birmingham public schools, $5,465.66, or 59.4 per cent; Jefferson County schools, $1,400, 71.1 per cent; campaign headquarters, $6,094.18, 73.3 and the Negro division, $1,214.39, or 54 per cent.

Selma, Ala., Times Journal
December 4, 1938

# Negroes To Organize Welfare Group Here

A mass meeting will be held Wednesday night at 7:30 o'clock at Selma University when all groups of negro citizens will be represented to perfect an organization to promote general negro welfare under a general improvement league program. Playgrounds for negro children and similar projects will be among the matters which the organization will seek to sponsor.

A committee named at a previous meeting and named to contact all groups of colored people is made up of President W. H. Dinkins, Mark Thomas, Arthur Reagins, James Lewis, C. E. Jackson, S. W. Boynton, L. H. Gans and Rev. L. R. Taylor.

**FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED COLORED CHILDREN**

Editor, The Advertiser:

We the Free Will Charity Workers, are starting our annual Christmas drive for the less fortunate and underprivileged children. We thought that this would be a great thing to do to make these children happy at Christmas time. Since it has been our custom for several years to do unto others as we would have them do unto us, we are now confronted with a good many children that are bare-footed, poorly clad, and without sufficient clothes and fuel to keep them warm. These are trying to go to school, so your help will be very much appreciated; such as old clothes, shoes, bedding, fruit, candy or toys, or anything that you may see fit to give will be appreciated very much. And since the Lord is counting on you that have it, may we plead in the name of Christ and for the sake of those that need you at this time, to open up your hearts, your store-house, and your pocketbooks so that these too may feel the joy of Christmas. Remember, that when you give through the channel of the Free Will Charity Workers (Colored), you give directly to the needy.

Send all orders to Rev. G. Turner, 209 Carrie Street, or 111 Monroe Street. If Rev. Turner is not in, leave message with Mr. Stegall, C.-3980.

Committee in charge:

REV. G. TURNER,
R. A. ROSS,
S. GRAYSON,
DR. R. T. ADAIR.

209 Carrie Street.

Birmingham, Ala., Age Herald
November 28, 1938

# CHEST IS NEAR FINISHING MARK

## Cleanup Activities Of Group To Be Pushed To Completion

A whirlwind finish is planned for the sixteenth annual appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County's Community Chest during the forepart of this week, with groups of regular volunteer solicitors continuing their cleanup activities from campaign headquarters, 1804 First Avenue, North, Monday.

The "shock troops" which have been called to meet at 8:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Chamber of Commerce Auditorium, and where each volunteer soldier can choose his own "prospects" from cards which will be on tables, are expected to make their final reports at headquarters not later than by 5 p.m. of the same day. It is announced that the result of this effort by 150 citizens especially called for that purpose will be the official close of the campaign, "win or lose."

Saturday night's official audit at campaign headquarters showed the grand total of this appeal to have reached $434,941.43, or 93.2 per cent of the minimum appeal quota of $466,757.44, leaving a balance of $31,816.01 to be raised. However, there are a number of items still outstanding, including the expected Thanksgiving offering of the school children of city and county, which will reduce this deficit somewhat, but leaving still more than $25,000 for the "shock troops" to raise Tuesday.

Standing of the various divisions Sunday was as follows: Commercial division, $230,338.89, or 98.5 per cent of quota; women, $33,358.66, or 101.7 per cent; industrial, $143,074.12, or 86.4 per cent; Bessemer, $8,921.27, or 100.7 per cent; Homewood, $935.65, or 116.8 per cent; Leeds, $1,892.93, or 113 per cent; Tarrant City, $596.87, or 124.2 per cent; Warrior, $186.60, or 118 per cent; Birmingham public schools, $5,465.76, or 59.4 per cent; county schools, $1,400, or 71.1 per cent; headquarters, $6,772.43, or 80 per cent; Negroes, $1,998.85, or 88.7 per cent.

Selma, Ala., Times Journal
November 25, 1938

# Red Cross Aid By Negroes Urged Here

**Leaders of the colored division of the annual Red Cross Roll Call are urging members of their own race to make a creditable showing this year as in the past, and those who have not yet contributed should do so by Saturday, closing date of the drive. A. C. Brown and C. A. Reid are co-chairman of the colored divisions and contributions will be accepted at Reid Drug Store or prospective donors may call 376 and a worker will collect their contribution.**

**Colored churches, clubs and societies as well as many individuals are expected to contribute.**

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 17, 1938

# SCHOOLS' DRIVE FOR CHEST STEPPED UP

## *Warrior Division Already "Over Top"; 82 Per Cent Of Total Raised*

Two new districts have made their first reports to headquarters in the sixteenth annual appeal of the Community Chest and both showed good progress toward their respective goals. The Birmingham and Jefferson County public schools, for the first time, present in returns and each is well above the 50 per cent mark.

The Thanksgiving offering, tolicitors is only 17.8 per cent shy of be taken up next week, is ex-the minimum quota set for the six-pected to show a substantial in-teenth appeal. To be exact, the defi-crease over last year's totals. ciency this morning was $81,333.46,

The Warrior division "went over a sum that headquarters and divi-the top" yesterday and John B. sion leaders said could be raised in Woods, Jr., chairman; W. C. Bar-short order by persistent applica-nett, co-chairman, and the Warrior tion to the job.

Lions Club, whose members were active in the work, were complimented by Chairman Robert Gregg and other chest officials for their excellent showing.

Subscriptions audited up to this morning totaled $385,423.98, the equivalent of 82.6 per cent of the minimum quota fixed for the 1939 budget.

**Divisional Reports**

By divisions subscriptions audited are:

Commercial, $207,495.82, or 88.5 per cent of quota; women, $30,134.85, or 91.7 per cent of quota; industrial, $123,641.47, or 74.6 per cent of quota; Bessemer, $7,464.66, or 82.5 per cent of quota; Homewood $66.80, or 81.2 per cent of quota Leeds, $1,439.43, or 85.9 per cent of quota; Tarrant, $555.75, or 115.7 per cent of quota; Warrior, $179.60, or 112.4 per cent of quota; Birmingham Public Schools, $5,465.66, or 59.4 per cent of $9,196.33 quota; Jefferson County Public Schools, $1,400, or 71.1 per cent of their $1,967.99 quota; headquarters, $5,725.05, or 70.3 per cent of quota; Negroes, $1,259.89, or 56 per cent of quota.

Chairman C. E. Hawkins and Co-Chairman H. H. Sullinger, of Bessemer, advised headquarters yesterday afternoon their organization is functioning smoothly and would reach the division quota within a day or two. When the subscriptions were audited last night, it was found Bessemer lacks only 17.1 per cent of its quota.

**Directors Meet**

The chest board of directors held its regular monthly meeting in the directors' room of the First National Bank this morning to consider plans for early closing of the appeal.

The Junior Red Cross council is conducting the appeal in the city and county public schools, with Miss Katherine Walker, Woodlawn High School student, council chairman, and Eleanor Fair, of Fairview elementary school, co-chairman, in charge.

Report of auditors this morning disclosed the volunteer army of solicitors is only 17.8 per cent shy of the minimum quota set for the sixteenth appeal. To be exact, the deficiency this morning was $81,333.46, a sum that headquarters and division leaders said could be raised in short order by persistent application to the job.

Birmingham, Ala., Age Herald
November 15, 1938

# CHEST PLEDGES NEARER 1938'S MINIMUM QUOTA

Steadily the total of the Sixteenth Annual Appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County's Community Chest continues to climb toward the minimum quota of $466,757.44, and Tuesday's activities at campaign headquarters, 1804 First Avenue, North, promise to be in the nature of an intensive "cleanup" campaign on the part of the volunteers.

Group meetings of volunteers of the commercial, industrial and women's divisions were held Monday at headquarters and determination was expressed on all sides to stick to the job until it is completed, with many teams taking advantage of the balmy weather to complete their particular assignments.

Early Monday night the grand total was estimated to have reached $337,751.77.

Some of the house-to-house canvassers of the women's division continue to establish new records, and Mrs. Frank Bainbridge, chairman of the western territory, among others, reports the following having met with outstanding success: Central Park district, Mrs. Leigh Clark, chairman, with a $93 quota, raised $100 additional; Jackson district, with Mrs. Archie Clements, chairman, went three times over quota; Martin district, with Mrs. Earl Bruner, chairman, well "over the top;" Colonial Hills, Mrs. S. E. Lucas, chairman, also went "over the top."

**Mrs. Waldrop's Group Active**

Mrs. D. H. Waldrop, who organized a group of volunteers in the Powderly district, came to headquarters Monday noon with $25, gathered in small amounts by her group. This group had no "quota," but worked in an entirely new field for the chest.

From Warrior, where John B. Wood, Jr., is chairman, and W. C. Barnett, cochairman, of the Chest Appeal organization, came a message Monday night that they would soon be over the top, after being already credited with having turned in 78.5 per cent of their quota.

The Negro division, with John W. Commons, chairman, and Dr. Bertram Hudson, cochairman, Monday was close to the halfway mark of their quota and had started an intensive "cleanup" campaign to reach its full quota during the forepart of this week.

Mrs. C. Eugene Ireland, chairman of the special gifts group of the women's division, whose group passed their quota Sunday, will speak at 9 a.m., Tuesday, during Luquire's "Day Dream" program over WAPI, in behalf of this Chest Appeal. Among the speakers Monday was Paul C. Vaughan, who addressed workers at the Dixie Fire Brick Company, at 2:30 p.m., at their plant.

Alabama

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Montgomery Ala. Advertiser
October 23, 1938

# Negro Leaders In Unified Drive Solicit Themselves First Of All

## For Coming Year

Leadership of the Negro Division of the Charity and Welfare Council Unified Drive at their first meeting Friday night turned in a report of $211.50 composed solely of their own contributions. "We feel that we must first give before we can ask others to give," spokesman for the group said.

Dr. Council Trenholm, president of State Teachers College, accepted the general chairmanship of the division and plans were laid to canvass the Negro citizenry during the coming week. A counterpart to the groups division was formed to solicit those business firms operated by their race, and districts of the city were assigned to groups of workers.

More than 100 workers are to take part in the organization, forty of which have been secured, it was said.

A committee for promotion and education in respect to the drive was appointed and the first move was to prepare a list of speakers and delegate each to address a Negro church today. It is planned to take up a special collection in each church as congregational contribution to the drive.

The Negro Division pledged itself to raise a quota of $1,500 as its contribution to the support of the nine participating agencies in the Unified Drive. Dr. Trenholm told the assembly, "it is the least thing we can do to take part in the mobilization for human needs now taking place all over the country. It is as much our duty in the role of citizens as it is our duty as human beings. Charity rises above any other consideration."

John Holman, campaign director, who attended the meeting, expressed great hope for the division. "We have need them to help and they are responding with the finest enthusiasm I have no doubt that they will raise more than the quota they have set for themselves."

Dr. Trenholm called the workers for another meeting tomorrow night to report results of the Sunday campaign and the individual solicitations.

Birmingham, Ala. News
October 26, 1938

# 6,0[illegible]L RAISE FUNDS FOR CHEST

## Volunteers To Enter Field To Obtain $466,757.44

With approximately 6,000 volunteers in the field or preparing to enter the field to raise the minimum quota of $466,757.44 in this sixteenth annual appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County's Community Chest, leaders of the appeal are determined to do the job as quickly as possible and every effort is being made at campaign headquarters, at 1804 First Avenue, North, to systematize the work of the volunteers so the week beginning Monday, Nov. 7, may be used for a quick "clean-up."

It is again pointed out by the leaders that the slight increase of 2 per cent over the amount raised last year represents necessary additions for food, medical supplies and adjustments promised since the last campaign. The slight increase does not provide for expansion of activities or for additional personnel in any of the 34 agencies of the chest. For this and other reasons Robert Gregg, general chairman of this chest appeal, and Key Foster, co-chairman, are urging volunteer solicitors already at work and those who will soon take the field, to ask for a slight increase of previous subscribers and to urge a liberal response from new friends of the chest.

### Chest Day Observed

Following an enthusiastic observance of Community Chest Day by the Birmingham Kiwanis Club at their luncheon Tuesday at the Tutwiler Hotel, the message of the appeal was carried Wednesday to a combined luncheon meeting of the Birmingham Rotary Club and Exchange Club at 12:15 p.m., at the Tutwiler Hotel, with Frank P. Samford, chairman of the publicity division of the appeal, as the speaker.

Among the gatherings in the interest of the appeal scheduled for Thursday is a meeting of the Fairfield Kiwanis Club at 12:15 p.m., at the Fairfield Methodist Church to be attended by leaders of the Chest and to be addressed by Robert D. Johnston. Meetings Thursday night include a mass meeting of members and friends of the Negro division of this chest appeal to be held at 7:30 p.m., at the Smithfield Court Auditorium, with several leaders of the appeal scheduled to make short talks. John C. Henley, Jr., chairman of the speakers' bureau of the appeal, will be the speaker at the meeting of principals of Jefferson County Negro schools at 10 a.m., Saturday, at the Industrial High School.

Volunteers of the women's division are being served at headquarters by leaders of their division who will be on duty throughout the campaign. Those assigned by Mrs. J. Jackson Eaton, chairman of this division, as "hostess" for the remainder of this week are: Wednesday, Mrs. M. O. Smith; Thursday morning, Mrs. G. E. Didcoct; Thursday afternoon, Mrs. W. R. Fuller; Friday morning, Mrs. Felix Jones; Friday afternoon, Mrs. C. S. Blair; Saturday, Mrs. Eaton and Mrs. Harwell G. Davis.

### Radio Program Set

A radio program is announced for 8:05 p.m., this Wednesday, over WAPI, in behalf of the Community Chest, by widely-known radio stars, including Gladys Swarthout. Another Community Chest radio program is announced for 4:30 p.m. Friday, over WBRC, with Bing Crosby as one of the participating artists.

Francis W. Sheppard, chairman of the Commercial Division, urges every volunteer of every branch of this division to be on hand at the ballroom of the Thomas Jefferson Hotel at 4 p.m., next Monday, for a rally and mass meeting and final word for the active general canvass. A short and snappy program will be presented, including a moving picture, with final instructions and supplies. Volunteer solicitors of the Industrial Division who have not yet finished their work are also invited to attend this meeting.

Nashville, Tenn. Tennessean
October 27, 1938

# MRS. ROOSEVELT VISITS BIRMINGHAM

## First Lady Puts in Busy Day Answering Questions, Touring

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 25—(AP)—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt came to Birmingham today. The First Lady's day included:

Inspection of a Negro housing development; a tour of eight PWA projects, shaking hands with a majority of the employes at each; a visit to Birmingham-Southern College, where she told the students: "You are getting a much better break than my generation got, and I hope my generation will give you all the cooperation you need;" change of costume and brief greetings to delegates at a state women's Democratic convention; a press conference where she answered or parried every question a roomful of inquiring reporters could muster, and a lecture on "The Relationship of the Individual to the Community."

Birmingham, Ala. Post
October 29, 1938

# FIRST RESPONSE TO CHEST DRIVE GOOD

## Appeal's Industrial Division Is Meeting Encouraging Success; Acipco Employes Again Lead Way In Carrying Campaign 'Over The Top'

Birmingham's and Jefferson County's 16th annual Community Chest appeal is meeting with encouraging success in its initial stages, Chest leaders reported today.

Although the general canvass does not begin until Nov. 7, the Chest's industrial division already is active and is showing results in the solicitation of pledges from employe groups at industrial plants in the district.

Again, as for years past, American Cast Iron Pipe Co. employes and executives are the first industrial group to go "over the top" with every man in the plant making a contribution, C. E. Ireland, industrial division chairman, announced.

Woodward Iron Co. has also completed the work of solicitation and reports an increase of 2.6 per cent over last year's total of employes' pledges, although this year there are 150 fewer employes.

Today's schedule of meetings in the interests of the appeal included one of employes of the Louisville & Nashville shops in East Thomas at noon, with Maj. Louis Philps as speaker, and a meeting of employes of Perfection Mattress Co., at 12:30 p. m., with Amos Kirby as speaker.

A meeting of the Negro division of the appeal, with John W. Commons, presiding, was held last night at Smithfield Court auditorium. Speakers included A. Key Foster, co-chairman of the appeal, and Mrs. Florence S. Adams, executive director of the Community Chest. A final get-together, before the start of the active general canvas of this division will be held at a banquet at 7:30 p. m. Nov. 3, at the same auditorium.

Ministers of several churches have agreed to preach special sermons on Nov. 6 at the morning services in observance of "Community Chest Sunday," and four-minute speakers will be assigned to all churches making requests for them. Dr. D. R. Price, secretary of the Birmingham Christian Federation, is in charge.

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 6, 1938

# MINERS ENDORSE COMMUNITY CHEST

## Committees Take Action On Appeal After Visiting Local Agencies

W. H. Hardin, president of Local 5988, United Mine Workers of America, with headquarters at Lewisburg, is a great believer in the old maxim that "Seeing Is Believing."

And so, when miners began to ask a lot of questions about the sixteenth annual Community Chest appeal for Birmingham and Jefferson County, it occurred to him that the best way to answer them and to assure their contributions to the appeal would be to select a committee and have it visit a certain number of the chest agencies which were of special interest to them and let them report to their fellow workers on what they saw.

Of the seven members of the committee F. M. Owens, Bob Holsombacke, J. L. Mitchell and A. E Painter visited the North Birmingham Community House and Nursery Home, the Alabama Association for the Blind, the Mercy Home, the Birmingham Boys Club and the Jefferson Sanatorium. A committee of three Negroes composed of Pitman Bell Floyd Hunt and Albert Prince visited the Children's Home and Hospital, the Old Folks Home, the Bethlehem Home, the Negro Boys Club and the Jefferson Sanatorium.

In a written report to the union the committee of four white mem-

bers state in reference to their visit: "At each place was found a very capable supervisor in charge who explained the workings of his institution. Perfect cleanliness and sanitation was noted and a great work is being done by each institution."

The committee of Negroes states: "At each of above institutions we found a very enthusiastic supervisor who heartily endorsed the Community Chest and explained the wonderful work being done for the unfortunate among the colored race."

The entire committee joins in stating that it "endorses the action already taken in voting to contribute 100 per cent strong to the 1939 Community Chest appeal."

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
November 4, 1938

# YOUNGER GROUPS WORK FOR CHEST

## Junior Red Cross And High School Students Active In Appeal

There is no more enthusiastic group in behalf of the sixteenth annual appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County Community Chest than the Junior Red Cross organization, which is conducting the appeal in the high schools and elementary schools of the city.

Among the most active of the youthful chest campaigners is the large group of speakers, especially the class at Phillips High School with Miss Lelia Mae Smith as instructor. Three hundred fifty Community Chest appeal talks were written and delivered in classes, of which 60 were selected to be used by the Junior Red Cross speakers' bureau for activities in the schools of the city.

One of the youthful orators of Phillips High School, Herbert Kiesewetter, will also speak at the "kick-off" breakfast of the campaign, in the ballroom of the Tutwiler Hotel at 7:45 a.m. Monday, according to the program announced for the event.

Among the civic clubs which will hear the claims of the chest appeal presented to them Friday are the Redstone Club, which will meet at 12:30 p.m. at the Church of the Advent parish house. A motion picture is to be shown and John C. Henley, Jr., will serve as commentator. The Civitan Club will meet at 12:45 p.m. in the Tutwiler Hotel with Robert Gregg, general chairman of the chest appeal, as speaker.

### Teachers To Meet

Teachers of city schools will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday in Phillips High School auditorium. Dr. W. L. Leap will speak on the appeal. A motion picture will also be shown. Theo R. Wright, who is president of the City Teachers Association, also is chairman of the teachers' division of this appeal. Noble B. Hendrix is co-chairman. Carol W. Hayes is chairman of the Negro school division of the appeal.

Of all members of the speakers' bureau, Judge Hugh A. Locke expects to be the busiest Sunday, which is to be observed as Community Chest Day in city and county churches. His schedule for Sunday morning in Inglenook is 10:50 a.m., Inglenook Baptist Church; 11 a.m., Methodist Church 11:50 a.m., Presbyterian Church with others elsewhere at night.

"The women of this city and county are a greater factor in this Community Chest than many seem to realize," said Appeal Chairman Gregg, addressing a mass meeting of the women's division at the Thomas Jefferson Hotel Thursday morning. "Of the 500 members of the boards of directors of our 34 chest agencies more than two-thirds are women. They run the homes and care for our family life. You are the ones who furnish the incentive to men to do their best, and I am confident you will also prove the incentive for the success of this appeal."

### Other Speakers Heard

Mrs. J. Jackson Eaton, chairman of the women's division, presided and made encouraging opening remarks. Other speakers included A. Key Foster, cochairman of the appeal; Mrs. Harwell G. Davis, co-chairman of the women's division, and Mrs. Florence S. Adams, executive director of the chest.

Foster stressed the importance of giving everyone an opportunity to subscribe, especially newcomers, while Mrs. Davis pointed out that everyone who goes out on errands of mercy has at his or her elbow the greatest service worker in all history, who said "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto Me."

## Letters To The Editor

**Please be brief. We reserve the right to cut letters more than 300 words long**

### FOR OLD AND INDIGENT NEGROES

Editor The Advertiser:

We the Free Will Charity Workers are starting our annual drive for $200, beginning Monday, Nov. 7th, for the purpose of raising funds for the old folks' home and also for a Thanksgiving dinner for the needy negroes. We are asking our citizens to cooperate with us, because it takes funds to carry this good work to a success, and we know that the citizens will help us as they have always done so. We realize that times are hard and we do not ask for thousands but will appreciate the widow's mite, and will ask that you send all donations to 209 Carrie Street, or 111 Monroe Street, to Reb G. Turner, committee in charge.

REV. G. TURNER,
R. A. ROSS,
SIDNEY GRAYSON,
AUGUSTUS FRAZIER,
DR. R. T. ADAIR.

# CHEST LEADERS EXTEND DRIVE INTO NEXT WEEK

The sixteenth annual appeal of the Birmingham and Jefferson County Community Chest will be carried into next week, with Tuesday and Wednesday designated final cleanup days. All divisions are urged to complete their regular solicitation work by Monday, that they may give their full time for the next two days to the general "cleanup" activities of the campaign.

This was decided at a meeting of division and group leaders with Robert Gregg, general appeal chairman at campaign headquarters, 1804 First Avenue, North, at noon Friday when it was pointed out, one of the major divisions of this appeal would not be able to reach its quota by a considerable amount, and that it would be necessary for other divisions to make up this deficit by oversubscriptions or new pledges.

General Chairman Gregg expressed gratification over the fact that all of the division and group leaders in the conference reiterated their determination to stick to their assignments until the job is finished, regardless of how much longer it takes.

Special groups will be busy Saturday in revisiting territories where it is believed good "prospects" were missed and in rechecking cards and records for any citizens believed to be ready to contribute who may have been missed.

Having passed the $400,000 mark Friday, volunteer solicitors in large numbers assured General Chairman Gregg and A. Key Foster, cochairman of this chest appeal, that they would stick with their division and group leaders until the remainder has been brought in. The appeal quota is $446,757.44.

Citizens who desire to aid this cause are urged by chest leaders not to postpone action longer, but to bring or send their pledges and contributions to campaign headquarters without delay. It is also requested that any merchantile establishment or any industrial plant which has not as yet sent in their list of contributions do so before Saturday night so a complete checkup may be made for the week end.

Standing of the various division was as follows: Commercial Division, $215,420.01, or 91.9 per cent of quota; Women, $30,731.32, or 93.5 per cent; Industrial, $125,266.57, or 75.6 per cent; Bessemer, $7,659.16, or 85 per cent; Homewood, $706.80, or 90 per cent; Leeds, $1,592.93, or 95.1 per cent; Tarrant City, $555.75, or 115.7 per cent; Warrior, $179.60, or 112.4 per cent; Birmingham Public Schools, $5,465.66, or 59.4 per cent; County Schools, $1,400, or 71.1 per cent; Headquarters, $5,743.55, or 69.6 per cent; Negroes, $1,259.89, or 56 per cent.

Jasper, Ala. Tribune
December 7, 1938

# Jasper Theatre To Give Big Party For Benefit Of The Needy Children

The children of this section will have another big picture show party on December 23 when the Jasper Theatre again puts on a special show for the purpose of collecting toys and other items for underprivelege children.

When the show opens that day no money will be taken for admission. The only admission charged will be a toy, fruit, a bag of candy or some other item suitable as a surprise Christmas gift for some child who may not be so fortunate.

This will be the third year that the Jasper Theatre has sponsored a show before Christmas. Last year over eight hundred children attended the show given at the New Theatre and as many gifts were collected for distribution to children on Welfare Department list of needy persons.

This year the party will be bigger than ever. The show will begin in early afternoon and continue until every child has seen it. Feature picture and other attractions on the program will be announced next week.

### Benefit Show For Negro Boys and Girls

This show will be in cooperation with the work done by the new community Christmas Committee and all items collected will be turned over to the committee for distribution to the children or the families selected.

Next Friday, December 16, a special show is to be given especially for negro children in the county. No admission will be charged. Each child is asked to bring an item as a gift to some negro child whom Santa Claus cannot reach. Gifts suggested are toys, clothes, staple groceries, canned goods, etc. These will be collected at the door and later distributed to less fortunate of the city.

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 14, 1938

# SHALL THE WORK OF THIS ONE MEAN NAUGHT?

HERE IS A VIEW of Jim Pearson's cabins between Vandiver and Sterrett before the cabins were destroyed by forest fires along with lumber for a 10-room dormitory. Pearson, who for years has been a Negro welfare worker here, has almost single-handed created this camp for underprivileged Negro boys and girls, and for some afflicted with tuberculosis. A campaign is under way to restore the loss by donations of money or materials. Subscriptions may be sent to Jim Pearson, Sterrett, Ala.

## Aid Asked For Jim Pearsor Project In Helping Negro Boys And Girls

Determined that the work of Jim Pearson, for years a Negro welfare worker of Birmingham, shall not be abandoned, a group of Negro leaders held a meeting Thursday and mapped a campaign to raise at least $1,000.

Pearson's work, which has attracted commendation and practical help of a host of white citizens, consists chiefly of a home for underprivileged Negro boys and girls between Vandiver and Sterrett, a few miles east of Leeds. There also he has accommodations for a few tubercular patients.

Record was made in The Birmingham News a few days ago that the devastating forest fires of recent weeks swept this camp and not only destroyed two cabins, which represented much effort and hard work, but that lumber stacked to build a 10-room dormitory had also been destroyed.

This was a severe blow to Jim and his associates and they were stunned over the misfortune. However, they found solace in the high hope that the loss would be provided for somehow, and this came true, in a measure, when the meeting was held Thursday.

Pearson after many years of patient effort obtained a tract of more than 100 acres of land, and after other years of patient persistence managed to build five cabins for his suffering Negro fellows. He then made plans for a 10-room dormitory, the lumber for which went up in forest fire smoke, along with all but three of his modest cabins.

### Garden A Failure

The fire, which was bad enough is not the only frustration which has overtaken Pearson and his camp this season. He planted in the Spring, hoping for a bountiful harvest with which to help feed his folks and the stock during the Winter, but the extremely unseasonable weather withered the crops and this item, on which he depended was also swept away. And there followed his Winter gardens, of supplies which have not flourished due to the prolonged Summer weather

So it has been one thing and then another to thwart Pearson but he wouldn't quit.

The new program, which is designed to stabilize Jim's efforts consist of rebuilding, not only the cabins destroyed, but five additional cabins to take care of the ever-increasing demand. There will also be provided, with the help of friends, a second-hand ambulance to transport, not alone patients from the camp to Birmingham for medical treatment at the Hillman Hospital, but ill Negroes who cannot reach the hospital now by reason of this lack of transportation. It is also the plan to provide needed lumber for the proposed 10-room dormitory.

At ths time Pearson alone, and practically unaided, has provided food and shelter for 30 underprivileged Negro boys and girls and has provided for eight tubercular patients who had no other place to go. He personally earns some money each month and he has provided, out of these personal funds, money for milk, eggs, fruits and fresh vegetables for the tubercular patients at his refuge.

### Much To Be Done

A number of persons have followed the work Pearson has carried forward in Birmingham in his quiet, unselfish way, and are interested in helping him at this critical period in his career. Aside from the committee of Negro members of his board of directors and others, it is understood he has been assured of some help from other sources. However, there is a mountain of work to be done, even in the mere restoration of his destroyed facilities—not to speak of the extension of the work so needful and so desired.

Anyone interested in lending a hand to Jim in his hour of need may communicate with him by mail addressed to him at Sterrett, Ala. Money or useful materials will be equally welcome.

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 3, 1938

## A Deserving Tribute To One Who Works Not For Fame: Jim Pearson

BY WILLIAM M. ENNIS

In Birmingham there is a very coal black Negro for whom nearly all white residents have the highest esteem and affection: Jim Pearson. He is a devoted servant of the Lord and has considerable influence with the "Old Marster" surely. Jim is trying to steady the feet of Negro boys on the pathways and to that end he has established a farm for Negro boys over the mountain from Sterritt. There he is carrying a very heavy burden but he never wavers or for a moment doubts that he will obtain the Green Light.

He comes to Birmingham nearly every day to minister to various and sundry friends, for in his hands has been deposited a healing ray which has brought comfort and solace to many. And while here yesterday he was relating he was in need last Saturday of two additional cows on his farm for Negro boys, Jim being a great believer in milk and nothing stronger. He placed the matter, he said, before his "Silent Partner" in that enterprise, and lo! comes two unexpected visitors who, somehow learning of the need for two additional cows, told Jim he need make no further plans as the cows would be along shortly. And they were.

For over half a century Jim has been a citizen of Birmingham. For many years he operated a Turkish bath institution in a large residence located at the time on what is now the site of the beautiful U. S. federal building. There he served men about town who found themselves, occasionally, in need of his ministration. He made many converts in that place.

Later he went into welfare work. He is especially interested in reclaiming Negro boys and his work in that line is widely known over the South.

Jim never faces a crisis. He says that he never forgets his personal adequacy to master all problems. He knows no fear. Rather he places things in the hands of his Lord. In many respects he measures up to this rare bouquet: A Negro Brother Bryan.

This earnest fellow doesn't go around with a long face. On the contrary he has a contageous smile; is never in a sour humor. He is cheerful, earnest and certainly an asset to this section.

* * *

There has been more or less complaint on the part of sundry citizens about the dust now prevailing in Birmingham and the smog. And this is a just cry. But pity the folks who live near the depot in Woodlawn and those who live near the new boulevard in Central Park. At these two spots huge shovels manned by large crews of men are turning earth to make way for subways in Woodlawn and the realignment of tracks in Central Park. And they create a storm of dust which almost covers the homes of hundreds of citizens. There they not only fall heir to the current amount but have an added volume. And what a punishment it must be. The only consolation is the final beautification of the two areas.

## Unselfish Negro Needs Aid To Help Him Help Others

(From Yesterday's Final Edition)

BIRMINGHAM has been called upon to assist in a humanitarian work which has been approved by many civic-minded leaders for the good it has accomplished among needy Negroes of this area.

Jim Pearson, a Negro welfare worker of Birmingham for years has maintained a home for underprivileged Negro boys and girls between Vandiver and Sterrett, a few miles from Leeds. He has also cared for a few tubercular patients at the home.

Nature, in a destructive mood, has not been good to Jim Pearson this year. Forest fires of recent weeks swept his camp, destroying two cabins and much lumber which had been stacked to build a dormitory. Unseasonable weather withered crops Jim had counted on to furnish needed vegetables and grain to feed the human beings and the stock at his place of mercy.

In order that Jim Pearson's humanitarian work may not be abandoned, a group of Negro leaders, encouraged by a host of interested white people, have launched a campaign to raise $1,000 for reconstruction work at Pearson's camp, that the work of this quiet, unselfish Negro man may be carried on.

Anyone interesting in assisting in this work is requested to communicate with Pearson by mail at Sterrett, Ala. Money or useful materials will be equally welcome.

Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald
November 15, 1938

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# NEGRO BOYS CLUB TO SPONSOR FETE

## Smithfield Court To Be Site Of Christmas Party

Two hundred underprivileged Negro boys of the city will be feted at a Christmas party at Smithfield Court at 7 p.m. Thursday, according to E. S. Gaillard, president of Negro Boys Club.

The program will include a Christmas tree with presents for all of the boys present, singing of Christmas carols and singing by the boys themselves. In addition to the gifts, fruits, nuts, candy and clothing will be distributed by old Santa himself.

The party has been arranged by the trustees of the Negro Boys Club with the cooperation of a number of public spirited citizens of the city.

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 29, 1938

# Historic Church Will Be Sold For Housing Project

MEMPHIS— (AP) —The congregation of fashionable historic Grace Episcopal Church Church voted last night to sell its buildings and adjoining property for $35,000 in order to make way for a Negro slum clearance project whose eastern boundary will lie directly across the street from the church.

Senior Warden Troy Beatty, Jr., who declared church leaders valued the property at from $150,000 to $180,000, said it would be sold to a Negro Baptist Church which will be forced to vacate its building to make way for a white slum clearance project.

Numerous white residents of the vicinity have protested the site for the Negro project, but their objections were overruled by the Memphis Housing Authority.

Grace Church had its beginning as a mission of Calvary Church in 1852. The present church was built in 1905.

Tuscaloosa, Ala., News
November 27, 1938

# Negro Schools Active In Red Cross Drive

**Negro schools in Tuscaloosa and Northport took an active part in the Red Cross Roll Call, reporting many junior and senior memberships, officials of the Tuscaloosa County Red Cross Chapter announced Saturday.**

**Professor James Collins, principal at the County Training School in Northport, reported that the school had gone 100 per cent in both types of memberships, contributions totalling $25.32 in addition to $4.47 previously reported.**

**Professor Charles Orr, principal of the Industrial High school, reported the school going 100 per cent in faculty and junior membership, the funds totalling $16.99 to date.**

Birmingham, Ala. News
November 20, 1938

# DRIVING FINISH SET FOR CHEST APPEAL

## *Workers To Take Field For Cleanup, As 87.1 Per Cent Of Quota Reached*

With the spirit of "Thanksgiving" permeating the large host of volunteers, determined to make this a real "Thanksgiving," the sixteenth annual appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County's Community Chest, will enter its final phase Monday morning and come to a close Wednesday night, according to plans announced by Robert Gregg, general chairman, and A. Key Foster, co-chairman of the appeal.

It is the plan of the leaders of the appeal to devote Monday to a continuation of the regular general solicitation and have a general intensive "clean-up" campaign by all of the volunteer forces on Tuesday and Wednesday.

For the first time in the history of the Community Chest the industrial division will fall considerably short of raising its quota in this appeal, despite yoemen work done by C. Eugene Ireland, chairman, and John W. Porter and R. M. Marshall, co-chairmen.

"It will, therefore, be necessary for all other divisions and groups to obtain additional pledges and subscriptions wherever possible and to urge many who have pledged to make increases and act as 'pinch hitters' for the thousands who are unable to do their part in this appeal," said General Chairman Gregg Saturday night. He also urged all volunteers to be back on the job Monday morning to carry out this plan, at the same time expressing his appreciation for the fine work done thus far and the fine spirit of sacrifice manifest by these civic-spirited citizens.

"We need $60,000 more to reach our minimum quota and the problem we must meet is to raise that amount between now and Wednesday night," added Mr. Gregg.

The grand total of this chest appeal, officially audited Saturday morning, stood at $406,366.22, or 87.1 per cent of the minimum appeal quota of $466,757.44.

Standing of the various divisions was as follows: Commercial division, $220,190.76, or 93.9 per cent; women, $31,074.82, or 94.7 per cent; industrial, $129,589.97, or 78.2 per cent; Bessemer, $8,225.66, or 91.3 per cent; Homewood, $766.05, or 95.7 per cent; Leeds, $1,592.93, or 95.1 per cent; Tarrant, $572.20, or 119.1 per cent; Warrior, $179.60, or 112.4 per cent; Birmingham public schools, $5,465.66, or 59.4 per cent; county schools, $1,400, or 71.1 per cent; headquarters, $6,094.18, or 73.3 per cent; Negroes, $1,214.39, or 54 per cent.

From Warrior, where John B. Wood, Jr., chairman, and W. C. Barrett, co-chairman, and associates, have been busy in raising the Warrior quota, $20 was brought to campaign headquarters Saturday afternoon as a special gift from 20 volunteer firemen. The amount represented the $1 which each of the firemen received for putting out a fire which nearly destroyed a home the other day, and which amount, by unanimous vote, they agreed to turn over to the Community Chest.

Another C. I. O. affiliate answered the call of the chest appeal Saturday afternoon. This time it was the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, Local 1015, which voted the amount of $150 out of its treasury, and sent in the check for that amount.

Bessemer, Ala., Eagle
November 14, 1938

# DECLINE LISTED IN SCHOOL PUPILS

## Figures Provided By State Department

**MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—The number of Alabama children of school age has decreased by 6,396 since 1936, a survey by A. R. Meadows, director of attendance and child accounting in the State Department of Education, revealed.**

**Meadows attributed the decrease largely to migration of Negroes to other states. He said the drop was principally among Negro children —4,511 fewer now than shown by the survey two years ago.**

**Comparison of the records revealed that illiteracy decreased by 17,046 school-age children during the two years, bringing the state total down to 67,571 illiterates in this (6 to 20 years) age group.**

**Although the survey revealed a decline in the number of persons of school age, Dr. A. H. Collins, state superintendent of education, said it did not mean that there are less children in school.**

**"It means," Dr. Collins said, "that there are fewer who could be in the schools. Enrollment figures undoubtedly will be higher this year than ever before."**

Social Conditions, Improvement of.-1938

Alabama

# STUDIES HOUSING IN SOUTH

Courier

TUSKEGEE, March 24 — (ANP)—A preliminary report on how to improve unsanitary and distressing living conditions of the Southern rural population has just been turned into the U. S. Department of Agriculture Extension Service by Louis Edwin Fry, head of the Department of Architecture at Tuskegee, who received a grant last September by the General Education Board for this study.

In his report detailing his observations and conclusions from September through December, Mr. Fry found that many of the farmers objected to attempts to improve their living conditions, although this attitude was not general. The survey is probably the first comprehensive study of rural housing made among those who often have a family net annual income of less than $300.

**With Movable School**

After attaching himself to the Tuskegee Movable school under the direction of T. M. Campbell and going as far as Kansas State college, Manhattan, Kan., from which Fry graduated, to discuss building materials, he learned that housing conditions in northern Alabama, Southern Tennessee, Southern Missouri, Arkansas and Mississippi were similar to those in Southern Alabama.

Tenants and sharecroppers seldom bother to improve their homes because of their unstable status and lack of recompense for such improvements, the survey disclosed. Some independent farmers were similar to one in Russell county, Alabama, who said, "I aint got nothin', I don't want nothin'. I just want to be left alone," asserted Mr. Fry, adding that most, however, were willing to see their conditions improved.

**Lack Simple Conveniences**

His study disclosed, among other things, that most Southern farmers, whether landowners or not, lack such simple conveniences as kitchen sinks, water supply in house, and closets. Many of them could afford these conveniences but lack either the desire or information to get them. Comfortable houses, however, can be built at low enough cost to be within the reach of practically all, and research should be conducted into cheaper building materials, such as forms of earth, the report suggested.

Birmingham, Ala. Post
August 23, 1938

# CHEST CHOOSES NEGRO LEADERS

## John W. Commons Named Chairman; Hudson To Be His Assistant

John W. Commons, Negro business man, today was named chairman of the Negro division of the 16th annual Community Chest appeal, Robert Gregg, appeal chairman, announced.

The appeal chairman appointed Bertram Hudson, principal of Tuggle School, to the vice-chairmanship of the Negro division.

A native of Tennessee, Commons studied pharmacy at a school in Nashville before coming to Birmingham in 1918 to establish the Commons Coal and Ice Co. He has devoted much of his time to welfare work among Birmingham's Negroes.

In accepting the chairmanship of the Negro division of the Chest, Commons issued the following statement:

"The Community Chest is a worthwhile civic enterprise which deserves the enthusiastic support of all citizens, regardless of race or creed. I consider it a primary duty and responsibility of citizenship to work for the Chest and help maintain the 35 agencies which it aids financially."

Other Negroes named to aid in the forthcoming Chest appeal are Carol W. Haynes, supervisor of Negro city schools, and Nona Powell, principal of Jefferson County's Hooper City High School. Mr. Gregg said that they would direct Chest campaigns in city and county Negro schools.

Birmingham, Ala. News
September 13, 1938

# SLUM CLEARANCE WORK IS SLATED

## More Than $11,000,000 Has Been Earmarked For Alabama Projects

More than $11,000,000 has been earmarked for slum-clearance projects in Alabama cities, a Washington Associated Press telegram said today.

Of this total Birmingham is in line for $8,000,000.

One of the Birmingham projects has been approved, contract between the city and the Birmingham Housing Authority signed, and preliminary work is under way. Government allotment for this project is $3,828,000. A second project, earmarked for future approval, allots $4,172,000, the telegram states.

One of the projects approved outside of Birmingham is in Mobile, the allotment being $1,649,000, and earmarked for future approval are Anniston, $540,000; Gadsden, $900,000 and Phenix City, $500,000.

These allotments are part of the $519,273,000 represented in commitments by the United States Housing Authority to 129 cities participating in the national slum clearance and low cost housing program.

The government developed Smithfield Court for Negro low-income families, at a cost of approximately $2,500,000. This, with the two projects approved, or earmarked for approval, brings the total investment of the federal government in slum clearance projects in Birmingham up to approximately $10,500,000.

Birmingham, Ala. Post
September 21, 1938

# WHITE HOUSING SITES DEBATED

## East Birmingham Looms As Location For New Federal Project

Indications multiplied today that East Birmingham will be the site of a new $4,500,000 model housing project, the third such development for which the Federal Government has earmarked funds for Birmingham.

Members of the Birmingham Housing Authority, it was learned, are inclined to favor proposals to build the next project in East Birmingham, although a definite site has not been decided upon.

Two sites are under consideration at present—one in the rear of Avondale Mills and the second near Cunningham School. Both sides are considered suitable for white housing developments, indicating that the Housing Authority is leaning toward the building of another white housing project in preference to another Negro housing development.

These circumstances were revealed today after the Birmingham Industrial Council, central body for unions affiliated with the Committee for Industrial Organization, adopted a resolution endorsing an East Birmingham site for the next low-cost housing project in Birmingham.

Meanwhile, Housing Authority members awaited release of funds from Washington with which to start work on a $4,300,000 white housing project on the site facing McLendon Park.

This latter project is the second housing development approved for Birmingham. The Smithfield Court project already has been completed and is now tenanted by Negro families.

The Birmingham Industrial Council asked that the City Commission "co-operate in every way possible toward securing an immediate acceptance" of the East Birmingham site.

Gadsden, Ala. Times
October 13, 1938

# NEGROES RECEIVE RED CROSS AWARDS

R. B. Ford, Etowah County Red Cross chairman, will present certificates to a class of adult negroes at the Carver High School Friday night at 8 o'clock.

Those receiving certificates have completed a course in home hygiene and care of the sick, taught by Mrs. Rebecca V. Barnes, authorized instructor and Red Cross nurse. An interesting program will be given by the Class and Choral Club of the Carver High School. In addition to Mr. Ford other speakers will be Dr. C. L. Murphree, county health officer; Dr. G. M. Banks, A. W. Ray, C. E. Weatherbee and Guy Prater.

Birmingham, Ala. News
October 22, 1938

# NEGRO APPEAL GROUP TO MEET

## Community Chest Leaders To Gather In Smithfield Thursday Night

The Negro division of the sixteenth annual appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County's Community Chest will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday night at Smithfield Court Aditorium, 150 Eighth Avenue, North.

A final "get-together" mass meeting and banquet also will be held at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 3, at the same place, according to announcement by John W. Commons, chairman of the Negro division, and Dr. B. A. Hudson, co-chairman.

It is pointed out by these leaders that of the 34 agencies maintained in whole or in part by the Community Chest, six are exclusively for Negroes, while 16 serve both races. The Negro division is asked to raise $2,250.68. The minimum appeal quota is $466,757.44. The amount asked to be raised by this division is merely through general street, family and other contributions, while hundreds of Negro workers also contribute along with white employes in industrial plants and mercantile establishments.

Chairman Commons and Co-Chairman Hudson, of this division, announce the following plan of or-

ganization: Advisory committee, Dr. E. W. Taggart, chairman; executive committee, William M. McAlpine, chairman; publicity committee, Mrs. H. C. Bryant, chairman, and Robert Jones, co-chairman.

Committee chairmen include: Mass meetings, Robert Coar; movies, Alvin Harrison; banquet, Mrs. J. Norman Moore; speakers bureau, Mrs. M. L. M. Hooks; ministerial committee, the Rev. C. J. Baker, chairman; the Rev. W. L. Cash, co-chairman; Baptists, the Rev. E. M. Walton; Methodists, the Rev. H. D. Tillman.

William J. Moore, chairman of the advance gifts committee, announces the following group chairmen: Federated clubs, Mrs. John Anderson; non-federated clubs, Mrs. A. H. Parker; fraternal orders, Dr. H. C. Bryant; insurance companies, C. J. Green.

Mrs. Lucy Tankersley is chairman of the house-to-house canvassing volunteers, and Civic League divisions have the following chairmen: Pratt City section, Boze Howze; Ensley City section, Dillard Scurlark; Fairfield, W. Shelton Jackson; Woodlawn section, D. S. Stevens; Zion City, William Banks; Cleveland Station, Alonza Jackson; North Birmingham, H. L. Peoples; Collegeville, Reese Smith; Titusville, W. A. Rayfield; East Thomas, J. M. Wright.

Birmingham, Ala. News
October 28, 1938

# CHEST CAMPAIGN MAKES PROGRESS

## Industrial Plants' Employes Signing Up 100 Per Cent In Appeal Drive

Leaders of the sixteenth annual appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County's Community Chest Friday declared themselves as well pleased with the progress of the solicitations in advance of the general canvass which is scheduled to begin Monday, Nov. 7.

The industrial division, which is especially active in speeding up its program, reporting through C. Eugene Ireland, chairman, calls attention to the fact the American Cast Iron Pipe Company and its executives and employes this year are again first to report, with the usual fine record, every man in the plant making a contribution, thus again establishing their 100 per cent record, as for years past.

The Woodward Iron Company has also completed the work of solicitation and reports an increase of 2.6 per cent over last year's total employes' pledges, although this year there are 150 less employes, but R. M. Marshall, cochairman of the industrial division, declares the Woodward employes are strong for the chest and what it stands for and they are anxious to show it.

### Chest Meetings Held

Friday's schedule of meetings in the interest of this chest appeal included one of employes of the Louisville & Nashville shops in the East Thomas yards, at the noon hour, with Maj. Louis Philps as speaker, and a meeting of employes of the Perfection Mattress Company at 12:30 p.m. with Amos Kirby as speaker.

An enthusiastic meeting of the Negro division of this chest appeal, with John W. Commons, chairman, presiding, was held Thursday night at the Smithfield Court auditorium. Speakers included A. Key Foster, cochairman of this chest appeal, also Mrs. Florence S. Adams, executive director of the Community Chest, and others. Announcement was made that a final get-together, before the start of the active general canvass of this division, will be held at a banquet at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 3, at this same auditorium.

### To Speak Over Radio

All three radio stations of Birmingham are cooperating with the speakers' bureau of this chest appeal, a part of the publicity division, with J. R. Adams in special charge of radio programs. Among a number of radio speakers to be heard during next week are Thomas W. Martin, president of the Community Chest, at 8:05 p.m., Nov. 2, and Robert Gregg, general chairman of this chest appeal, at 12:45 p.m. on Nov. 6, both over WAPI broadcasting station.

Ministers of leading churches have agreed to preach special sermons Nov. 6 at the morning service, in observance of "Community Chest Sunday," and four-minute speakers will be assigned to all churches making requests for them to explain the chest appeal and its meaning to their congregations. D. R. Price, secretary of the Birmingham Christian Federation, is in special charge of this activity for the speakers' bureau.

"Let us bear in mind in contributing to this appeal that this minimum quota of $466,757.44, fixed to meet the absolute needs of the 34 chest agencies for 1939, must be subscribed, and that more is needed," reads one of the instructions to the volunteer solicitors. "We have a job to do, a real job. A job which means an investment in humanity for the next 12 months."

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October 28, 1938

# ADVANCE CHEST REPORT IS MADE

## Industrial Unit Asserts Donations 2.6 Per Cent Above 1937

Widespread activity continues among volunteers of the Industrial division of the sixteenth annual Appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County's Community Chest and C. Eugene Ireland, chairman, with John W. Porter and R. M. Marshall, co-chairmen of this division, are confident their division will go over the top at an early date.

Among the advance reports showing subscriptions and pledges by employes of larger industrial corporations, is one from the Woodward Iron Company, where the work of solicitation has been completed, and showing an increase of 2.6 per cent over last year's total employes pledges, although this year's rolls show 150 less employes.

Robert Gregg, general chairman of this chest appeal, and A. Key Foster, cochairman, expressed themselves as pleased with this fine showing of this and other empoyes organizations, and also urged other industrial plants and organizations to do their best in "pinch hitting" for those who, because of unemployment or other causes, cannot do their part in this chest appeal.

### Active Day Planned

Friday promised to be an active day for speakers and volunteer solicitors in other industrial plants and among those to hold meetings are: Employes of the Louisville & Nashville Shops in the East Thomas yards, at the noon hour, with Maj Louis Philps as speaker, and employes of the Perfection Mattress Company, at 12:30 p.m. with Amos Kirby as speaker.

Employes of Burger-Phillips Company met at 8 a.m. Thursday, when Dr. Frazer Banks addressed them on the claims of this chest appeal, and a mass meeting of the Negro division was held Thursday night at 7:30 at the Smithfield Court Auditorium, with short talks by Appeal Chairman Gregg, Cochairman Foster, and Mrs. Florence S. Adams, executive director of the chest.

J. M. Jones, Jr., president of the City Commission and W. E. Corning, president of the Board of County Commissioners, in a proclamation issued Thursday, urge citizens of Birmingham and the county to observe the week beginning Nov. 7, as "Community Chest Week," and to "give this worthy cause every moral and financial support possible." They also urge citizens to give a cordial reception to the volunteer solicitors who may call on them.

### Chest To Be Church Topic

Churches of all denominations have also been requested by leaders of the chest appeal to observe Sunday, Nov. 6, as "Community Chest Sunday," and many of the leading ministers of the city have already pledged themselves to preach at the Sunday morning service on the claims of the Community Chest. Other churches will have four-minute speakers address them on this subject.

The committee in charge of this particular division, in appealing for the cooperation of ministers and the various church organizations, points out that "A Common Cause Unites Our City," and has issued the followng plea:

The annual appeal of this city's human welfare agencies presents an opportunity for every citizen to give of his substance and of his heart for the benefit of his neighbor.

Our human welfare agencies express religion in action. They represent an affirmation of faith, on the part of our community, in the sacredness of human life, and an abiding hope for the future of mankind.

The campaign is a great uniting force in our community. It calls upon all groups, in all walks of life, to join together in a common cause. It should be an occasion of spiritual uplift in our city; from sacrificial giving we may attain an exaltation of spirit that will be a powerful and lasting force for good.

Only through giving from the heart may we adequately express our deep concern for the needs of others, and prove ourselves "good neighbors."

Social Conditions, Improvement of-1938

Alabama

# Help For Aged State's Biggest Welfare Load

## Amounted To 63.3 Per Cent Of Total Paid Out In December

Records and statistics of the State Department of Public Welfare show, according to Miss Jemula Dunn, Commissioner, that the granting of assistance to Alabama's needy aged constitutes not only the heaviest cost of the total welfare program, but also reaches more households. For example, it was pointed out, in December of last year 63.3 per cent of the total amount of obligations incurred for public assistance, was for old age assistance, and the number of courses reached through this type of aid was approximately 64.5 per cent of the total number of cases receiving assistance under all classications.

Alabama's Old Age Assistance law went into effect, it was recalled on Jan. 1, 1936. Reviewing two years of the administration of this law through State and County Departments of Public Welfare, Miss Dunn cited that during the first month of its operation 5,615 aged persons were granted aid totalling $32,203.36, or an average of $5.74 a person, and during the second month—February, 1936—Federal Social Security funds becoming available—the total of those receiving this assistance increased 11.1 per cent, while the amount of assistance increased 50.4 per cent. In December 1937, the commissioner added, in illustrating the growth of the program for aid to the needy aged, assistance totalling $154,534.58 was paid to 13,968 needy aged persons, the average payment being $11.06 per person.

**More Beneficiaries**

These figures show, it was pointed out that the number of people receiving this assistance has increased more than 50 per cent with an increase of $379.9 per cent in the total of monthly payments made. The major factors influencing these increases, Miss Dunn said, have been the Federal Government's cooperation through the matching of State funds paid to Confederate pensioners, in that way providing more State funds for assistance to other aged persons; and the provision of more funds for all public welfare purposes from revenue derived from the State two per cent sales tax and the alcoholic beverage tax.

Stating that these facts do not present the whole picture however, the commissioner said they do not because the amount of assistance which many persons receive is still far too inadequate to provide a subsistence compatible with decency and health; because there are hundreds of persons approved for old age assistance who are receiving no cash aid, the total of these for last December being 1,126; and also because there are additional hundreds whose applications have not yet been investigated many of whom are, in all probability, eligible for assistance. Many needy aged individuals must be denied old age assistance, she added, because of legal restrictions as to eligibility.

**State Responsibility**

"The extent to which the needy aged can be helped," Miss Dunn stated, "is inevitably limited by the amount of State and local funds available. Funds used in rendering assistance through the State and County Departments of Public Welfare are derived from three sources, the State, Federal and County governments, the latter including municipalities. Federal participation depends entirely on the State's ability to finance its share of the program.

The Social Security Board will not advance Alabama any amount until the State actually has the cash on hand or has otherwise demonstrated its ability to carry the financial burden according to its plan. The extent of the program and the size of the monthly grant to the needy person must depend, therefore, on the ability of the State and local governments to pay. The Federal government pays one-half of all grants to eligible needy aged persons, the State pays one-fourth, and the local government one-fourth."

Birmingham, Ala. Post
February 19, 1938

# HOMEWOOD TO ASK $1,000,000 HOUSING PLAN

## Government Slum Clearance Project For Negroes Is Proposed

A move to obtain a $1,000,000 low-cost housing project that would eliminate the Negro slums in the Rosedale district of Homewood was under way today.

Calling conditions of sections of Rosedale "as miserable and as squalid as any part of this district," a joint committee of the Shades Valley Exchange Club and the Homewood City Council today were engaged in gathering data with the hope of being able to obtain a Government slum-clearance project.

J. C. deHoll, chairman of the Birmingham Housing Authority said that the authority would consider Homewood's bid for the project and that if considered worth while it would be sent to Washington for approval.

**Chances Believed Good**

Mr. deHoll said he hasn't yet been informed of the proposed project officially but added that it was "probably worth while."

Hugh Denman, president of the Shades Valley Exchange Club, was optimistic about Homewood's chance of landing the project.

"There can be no doubt that elimination of the slum conditions in Rosedale is a pressing necessity," said Mr. Denman, "The conditions there are dangerously unsanitary. There is practically no plumbing in any of the homes."

**Homewood Lacks Funds**

The City-County Health Department revealed that it considered conditions at these sections of Rosedale an "aggravation" and that it had suggested that Homewood extend its sewerage facilities to include these places, but that Homewood wasn't financially in position to do so.

D. O. Whaldin, Birmingham architect, is aiding the committee in gathering data for the housing authority.

Members of the committee are Earl Morgan, William R. Kent and Louis Williams, of the Exchange Club, and Phil DeVore, J. E. Montgomery Jr. and Dr. H. C. Crelly, of the Homewood Council. John Batten, attorney for the City of Homewood, is assisting

# Group Housing Proposed For White Families

## Government-Owned Plat On Fairview Avenue Is Urged For Project

A new housing project for white families of Montgomery has been proposed on the Fairview tract of land owned by the Federal government.

Advocates of the plan said yesterday a meeting had been called for next Wednesday night at the courthouse, when a representative of the Federal Housing Administration in Washington would be present to explain the government's most recent housing program.

It was pointed out that 200 or more one-family houses of four to seven rooms could be built on the tract, which the government acquired a few years ago for a subsistence homestead project, plans for which were abandoned.

Owners of the houses, it was further explained, would be given about 25 years in which to complete their payments. By working out such an attractive plan, the families would be able to own their homes at a cost of less than they could rent homes in other parts of the city.

The movement has received the strong endorsement of organized labor, according to A. H. Liston, president of the Central Labor Union. He and other leaders of the unions conferred this week with Mayor Gunter and received his unqualified support of the housing project.

Labor is advocating the housing program not only because it would afford the working man an excellent opportunity of owning a home on a rental price basis, but also for the number of jobs it would create in the city, Mr. Liston explained.

"Nor is the project designed for families of organized labor," he further stated. "It should appeal strongly to any man who has not heretofore been in position to own his home."

The meeting for next week is expected to add impetus to the housing movement, and any person interested in the plan is invited to be present. Mr. Liston said that wives and other women were especially urged to be present.

It was estimated that an average of two houses an acre could be built on the tract, which is the old Westcott estate, fronting the south side of Fairview near the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad tracks. Tentative plans are to build only one-family homes.

That section of the city, it was pointed out, is already served with electricity and gas is within a short distance of the tract.

Birmingham, Ala. News
February 19, 1938

**HIGH RENTS FOR POOR NEGROES**

An elaborate housing project for underprivileged Negroes has been completed at Birmingham, and, following an exhaustive inquiry into cost factors, it has been decided to place the rent upon these houses at an average of $4.50 per room per month.

This price is probably as low as could be asked in view of the cost of the enterprise, but it is unfortunate that a movement designed to assist the most unfortunate among the colored population should culminate in such fashion that a price far above that asked normally for Negro houses should be made necessary.

Private owners of Negro property usually are satisfied with a rental of from $2 to $2.50 per room per month, and how unfortunate Negroes who cannot pay this rental are to pay about twice as much does not appear. The condition undoubtedly means that the new homes will be occupied by Negroes who are among the more fortunate, not by those who are least fortunate.

This is a most regrettable situation arising out of the frequently demonstrated fact that the housing proposals as a rule are carried through with too little consideration for the financial condition of the elements that should be served.

In one of the early enterprises of this nature, started in New Jersey, homes for underprivileged Negroes cost in excess of $9,000 each, and it appears to have been impossible to bring the figures within reason even in an industrial community like Birmingham, where operations should be possible at a minimum cost.

It is true, of course, that the houses erected by the Housing Administration are more modern than those usually available for underprivileged Negroes, but ultra-modern homes can mean nothing to poor Negroes who haven't the price of obsolete ones. There is something wrong somewhere and the situation must be remedied if those who need help the most are to benefit.—Gadsdsn Times.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
June 15, 1938

# HOMES PROJECT REVENUE TOPIC

## Local Housing Official Agrees To Submit Plan To Capital

Possibilities of special services not ordinarily performed by the city for taxpayers will be considered as a means of increasing revenue in lieu of taxes from the proposed $5,000,000 white low cost housing project. This was decided at a conference between the City Commission and Frank E. Spain, chairman of the Birmingham Housing Authority, and Daniel W. Bateman, its consulting engineer, at a conference Tuesday.

Spain agreed to take this proposal up with Washington officials immediately. It also was decided that a study will be made to see if some such contracts can be made for Smithfield Court, the Negro low cost housing project now in operation, as a means of bringing the new plan up and obtaining a speedy decision from Washington authorities.

Commission President James M. Jones, Jr., asserted he has not changed his attitude in the least, that he wants a contribution of approximately the same amount a private owner would pay in city taxes on such a development, and that he does not care just how the contribution is worked out. If the city receives something more than $30,000, which he said represents taxes on a 40 per cent assessed value of the project, President Jones said the commission will agree to the project.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
July 2, 1938

# CITY GETS $3,500,000 FOR HOMES

## Funds Likely To Be Used For New Negro Housing Project, Says Spain

## SUM FOR BUILDING IS NOW $8,000,000

## Allocation Of Millions More For Construction Here Is Revealed

An additional allocation of $3,560,000 for slum clearance in the city was announced Friday as the Birmingham Housing Authority moved forward with preparations for actual construction of the $4,250,000 white low-cost housing project at Graymont.

The Age-Herald learned by telegram from Senator John H. Bankhead at Jasper and through The Associated Press at Washington that Administrator Nathan Straus, of the United States Housing Authority, had earmarked additional funds for Birmingham, bringing the total amount appropriated for low rent housing here to approximately $8,000,000.

Frank E. Spain, chairman of the Birmingham Housing Authority, said the new allotment most likely would be used for construction of another Negro housing unit, "because the housing plight of Birmingham's Negro population is in greater need of improvement."

A second Negro project, he said, would help to fill a need already partially met by the 544-unit slum clearance project for Negroes at Smithfield.

The local housing authority is going ahead with preliminary work on the white project here on the assumption that certain obstacles, notably a controversy with the city of Birmingham over means of providing the city with some form of revenue in lieu of taxes, will be removed.

President J. M. Jones, Jr., of the City Commission, has set $30,000 as his estimate of a fair annual remuneration for the city from the tax-free project, but the housing authority is not empowered to guarantee any specific sum annually.

The authority does have power, however, to turn over to the city 5 per cent of the shelter rentals, and has announced its willingness to let the city contract for certain essential services to increase the amount of revenue available from the project.

### Agreement Is Hoped

These services would include heating, cleaning, maintenance of the grounds, provision for overseers and nightwatchmen, etc.

It is hoped that revenue derived from furnishing these services, coupled with the rental income share, will prove sufficient.

Whether the project has the city's approval, however, the Birmingham Housing Authority, created by the Alabama Legislature, is at liberty to proceed with construction, but Chairman Spain has said repeatedly he would not proceed without the commission's approval.

Meanwhile, the local authority is continuing arrangements for condemning undesirable dwelling units in the city equal in number to the amount to be included in the project, which is 860.

In addition, Mr. Spain said Friday, the authority is going ahead with plans for a $500,000 local bond issue to supplement federal funds.

### 17 Allotments Made

The allotment made to the Birmingham Housing Authority Friday was among a total of 17 made throughout the nation as the U. S. Housing Authority fired a $68,925,000 gun in one of its heaviest bombardments against the depression.

Associated Press dispatches quoted Administrator Straus as saying Friday's action brought total commitments of the authority, since it began labeling funds for slum clearance and low-rent housing eight months ago, to $427,299,000.

Straus, according to the Associated Press, said the authority shortly would be signing loan contracts at the rate of about $50,000,000 a month, and that by the end of the next calendar month total disbursements would amount to $400,000,000.

Seventeen cities already have called for $111,700,000 of loans, and some of them, notably Youngstown, Ohio, and Buffalo and Syracuse, N. Y., are "making dirt fly," Straus told Associated Press reporters.

### Week One Of Best

He added "this week has been one of the best in the history of federal housing. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of that state's housing act in a Philadelphia test suit, the Massachusetts Legislature passed a law guaranteeing tax exemption to housing projects, and the District of Columbia and Vermont joined the housing parade.

"This means that in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts we can thaw out frozen projects for which we earmarked money but have been unable legally to contract loans.. . . ."

He said that by virtue of labor contracts in 23 cities, and others which he expected to become effective within a short time, there was little chance of work being delayed after housing projects started.

He referred to an agreement between the USHA and the building trades department of the American Federation of Labor. This agreement has been approved by local labor councils in many cities.

It provides (1) That there should be no "stoppage of work" in event of jurisdictional disputes until both parties have ample time to adjust differences.

(2) That wage rates in effect at the time work begins on any project shall remain in effect until it is completed.

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Other Negroes named to aid in the forthcoming Chest appeal are Carol W. Haynes, supervisor of Negro city schools, and Nona Powell, principal of Jefferson County's Hooper City High School. Mr. Gregg said that they would direct Chest campaigns in city and county Negro schools.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
August 31, 1938

# CITY SIGNS CONTRACT FOR HOUSING PROJECT

Contract between the city and the housing authority of the Birmingham district covering low-rent housing projects "not to exceed 2,000 units" was signed by Commission President J. M. Jones, Jr., Tuesday following the adoption of a resolution by a unanimous vote of the City Commission authorizing the contract.

The proposed McLendon Park white housing project, scheduled to cost $4,280,000 and to provide 860 units, is said to represent just a little more than a third of the program authorized by the contract.

Frank E. Spain, chairman of the housing authority, said a $4,000,000 additional allotment for housing projects in Birmingham already had been authorized and earmarked. He said it has not been decided whether the additional project or projects will be for white or Negro occupants.

### Name Wanted

Suggestions for a name for the white project near McLendon Park were asked by Spain. He said the project cannot be named in honor of any living man, and declared the housing authority would appreciate suggestions for an appropriate name for this development.

According to the terms of the contract signed by President Jones, the city agreed to eliminate unsafe and unsanitary units at least equal to the new units provided in the low-rent housing projects, in no event to exceed 2,000 dwelling units. It agreed to eliminate these units in the city limits.

### Reports Slated

The contract provides that the unsafe and unsanitary units shall be eliminated by demolishing houses on property acquired by the city for public use, by causing compulsory demolition, effective closing, repair or improvement of such unsafe and unsanitary dwelling or by inducing owners voluntarily to eliminate such units.

It is provided that the authority after its investigations shall advise the city of the existence of such units and make reports to city officials, and agrees that city officials will make reports to the housing authority on the elimination of unfit units. The eliminations are to be made within a year of the completion of new units.

The city agreed in the contract to furnish all municipal services to occupants of the low-rent housing projects.

Agreement is made that the city will vacate all streets and alleys in the area covered by the projects as desired by the housing authority and will relocate and rebuild streets and connections with the projects without cost to the city. The contract provides that the money will be provided and financing arranged by the authority.

In a closing section the housing authority agrees to develop the housing projects as rapidly as possible. The contract covers all projects for which contracts may be signed by the housing authority in a year.

Spain said extensive studies will be necessary before the type and occupancy of any additional projects to be provided with the $4,000,000 additional allotment or others that may be obtained is decided.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
October 19, 1938

# CHEST SPEAKERS BEGINNING WORK

## Employe Organizations And Groups To Hear Of District's Needs

Members of the speakers' bureau and leaders of the sixteenth annual appeal of Birmingham and Jefferson County's Community Chest during this week are addressing various groups and employes organizations in the interests of the appeal and preparing for the active general canvass beginning Nov. 7.

A. Key Foster, cochairman of this chest appeal, at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday will address employes of the Mortgage Realty Company, and other speakers will be heard during the day before other groups. Foster also was the speaker before the Jefferson County Dental Association at their dinner-meeting Tuesday night at Hooper's Cafe.

All activities of the appeal are now centered at campaign headquarters, 1804 First Avenue, North, where division and group leaders and volunteers will gather for conferences and reports, and where members of the Community Chest staff, headed by Mrs. Florence S. Adams, executive director of the chest, are ready to render any aid and advice needed by volunteer workers.

Reports from Bessemer say that the leaders and volunteers of that division, under direction of C. E. Hawkins, chairman, and H. H. Sullinger, cochairman, are already actively at work, as are also a number of surburban communities and towns, including Homewood, with Dr. E. M. Dunn, chairman, and W. R. Kent, cochairman; Warrior, with John B. Wood, Jr., chairman, and W. C. Barnett, cochairman; Tarrant, with G. A. Mitchell, chairman, and Edward F. Kessler, cochairman, and Leeds, with L. M. Funderburg, chairman.

Group meetings are also being held by the Negro division, with John W. Commons, chairman, and Bertram Hudson, cochairman, who have built up an extensive organization to carry on appeal activities among the Negroes of city and county.

Mobile, Ala. Times
December 31, 1938

# Figures on Annual Charity Dinner For Colored People Are Tabulated

Dinners were served to colored inmates and helpers of the 14 charitable institutions from funds collected by Rev. U. J. Robinson, pastor of Franklm St. Baptist church, acting as manager. The money was collected from the merchants, business and professional men of the city. This marks the 57th annual donation from this fund. Dr. A. F. Owens, who passed 10 years ago, instituted this movement, and carried on same for 46 years. His successor, Rev. Robinson, has managed the dinners for the last 10 years.

Institutions that are served are: City hospital, County Poor House, Little Sisters of the Poor, Benevolent Home for the Aged, Colored Old Folks' Home, White Boys Detention Home, White Girls' Home, Florence Crittenton Home, Zimmer Home, Colored Boys Detention Home, Little Sisters of the Holy Ghost, Tubercular Camp, Seamen's institute, Association for the Blind.

There are more than 850 inmates and helpers in these institutions. In addition to the homes, baskets are given to poor families that otherwise would not be helped by other movements.

The menu for Thanksgiving and Christmas was: turkey, ham, bread and pies, butter, apples and oranges, bananas, cakes and crackers. In some of the homes there is added potatoes, cranberry sauce and celery. For Christmas candy is added for the children.

The following gave $100—First National bank, Merchants National bank, and Gordon Smith Bakery; $25 — McGowin - Lyons, Weinacker Bros., L. Hammel Dry Goods Co., Alabama Dry Docks & Shipbuilding Co., United Fruit Co.; $20—C. J. Gayfer & Co.; $15 —Haas-Davis Packing Co., Warley Fruit & Produce Co., Lawyer W. H. Armbrecht and Roche Undertaking Co.; $10—M. Forchheimer Flour Co., Turner Supply Co., American National Bank & Trust Co., Taylor, Lowenstein & Co., Page & Jones, Mobile Light & R. R. Co.; $5—L. Lyons, Stonewall Insurance Co., Thames & Batre, Van Antwerp-Aldridge Drug Co. Pollock Dry Goods Co., Inc., Gill Printing Co., Duggan & Taylor Realty Co., Adam Glass Co., McCorvey, McLeod, Turner & Rogers, F. L. Giblin & Co., Inc., National Biscuit Co., Bidgood Printing Co., Lawyer W. B. Inge, Herbert Lyons, Mobile Paint Co., Walsh Stevedoring Co., Brown Coal Co., Hunter, Benn & Co.; $4.50—The What Good Are We Club; $3—Kahn Mfg. Co., G. E. Wagner, Ogburn - Davison Gro. Co.; $2.50—Dr. J. A. Franklin, Dr. P. W. Goode, Brown & Pou, Reliance Equipment Co., F. H. Stoll, F. Marion Inge, C. J. McAuley, Mobile Drug Co., Sage & Burgett, J. C. Montgomery, Arnold Family Shoe Store, Lawyer E. W. Faith; $2—Christian Benevolent Burial association, Dr. Toulmin Gaines, Mobile Electric Garage, Crawford's, H. A. Chapman, H. M. Conrad, Norville Bros., Mobile Mattress Co.; $1.50 — Heiter-Starke; $1.25—Nicholas E. Stallworth.

$1—McHugh, Hamilton & Lyons, Home Realty Co., John T. Cochrane, president A. T. & N. R. R., Croom & Tonsmeire, A. H. McLeod & Co., George E. Stone, John J. Damrich, Judge McDuffie, E. S. Wahl, B. Baum, Dr. E. T. Belsaw, J. C. Crosby, Dr. A. W. Thompson, Knox Bros., Mrs. A. E. Brown and Mrs. F. Hertzfeld. A friend, 25 cents.

| | |
|---|---|
| Total collected from all sources | $737.00 |
| Balance forward from 1937 | 1.03 |
| Grand total | $738.03 |
| Total cost Thanksgiving dinners | $359.41 |
| Total Christmas dinners | 360.56 |
| Grand total spent | $719.97 |
| Overhead expenses | 15.00 |
| Grand total | $734.97 |

Balance, $3.06.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

American Youth Commission.

**Negro Youth**—A study to determine "what effect the minority racial status of Negro youth has upon their personality development" will be made by a special committee for the American Youth Commission, 744 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C. Will W. Alexander, Farm Security administrator and a member of the commission, is chairman of the committee. The study will be directed by Robert L. Sutherland, head of the division of social sciences, Bucknell University. The case study method will be used, with personality inventories and attitude tests for a large number of individuals. "Data will be sought through a consideration of the influence of segregation and isolation on the bearing upon personal stability of a narrow occupational horizon; and the effects of limitation of participation in civic and social activities." Two guidance centers for Negro youth will be established.

Survey, February 1, 1938
Newsweek, Jan. 31

[illegible] (ARK) LEADER
DEC. 22, 1938 D61
ROSSETT

## SCHOOL RECEIVES FIFTY-DOLLAR GIFT

Crossett. — Fifty dollars to be spent on a 50-50 basis to buy candies, nuts, and fruits for the Crossett colored school pupils and to purchase some necessary things for the comforts of the sick and elderly persons of the community. The fifty dollars which came as a gift not only show that somebody cares, but it also shows the Crossett spirit which withholds nothing that is good from any of its citizens. The Crossett spirit which inspires its people to a finer appreciation of the community and helps them to have a very high regard for those who direct the industrial, social, religious and educational activities of the community. The Crossett spirit asserted itself in a very fine way last Monday when the manager of the Crossett Theatre put on a special show for the Negro school. The show pictured the type of work which the Jeanes Supervisors and other Jeanes workers have carried on in Negro schools in the Southern states since 1908 and the history of the scientific achievements of Dr. George W. Carver of Tuskeger.

The Crossett spirit accounts for the colored lights which are sparkling in the doorway to the entrance of the main building of the colored school.

At three o'clock tomorrow, December 23, the Crossett Mercantile Company and the Crossett Theatre will co-operate in giving a free Christmas party to the Crossett school children. White show at 1:30 and 4:15 and Colored at 3:00.

The activities aforementioned are but reflections of the fine consideration which the Crossett spirit shows all people.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Atlanta University School of Social Work

## Social Work School Head Gets New Job

Forrester B. Washington, director of the Atlanta University School of Social Work, has just been appointed chairman of the Committee on Publication, Publicity and Research of the Child Welfare League of America with headquarters in New York City.

This is the largest private children's organization in the country and has branches in several hundred cities. Paul T. Beisser of Baltimore is president.

## Social Work School Is Given $2500

The Children's Fund of Michigan, at a meeting held this week, appropriated $2,500 to the Atlanta University School of Social Work according to a telegram received Saturday by Director Forrester B. Washington from William J. Norton, vice-president and executive secretary of the Fund.

This gift is unusual in nature because the grants from this Fund are usually made exclusively to agencies and organizations within the State of Michigan only.

It is understood that the exception was made in the case of the School of Social Work because of its recent placement of nine of its graduates for work in Detroit—four with the Children's Aid Society, and five others with various social welfare agencies of the city, thereby justifying the support of a Michigan Fund because of the specific service rendered that state through these nine young people who were trained by the Atlanta School.

## 44 Colleges Represented In Social Work School

ATLANTA, Ga.—Forty-four colleges and universities, representative of a widely scattered area, have graduates who have entered the School of Social Work of Atlanta University for additional training.

This year's enrollment is the largest in the history of the institution.

# Social Work Students Come From 24 States

From the balmy shores of California and Texas, to the rock-bound coasts of Massachusetts and New York, and from Florida, the "Land of Sunshine and Flowers," to the snowy and windswept plains of Nebraska and Minnesota comes the students of the Atlanta University School of Social Work.

Exactly one-half of the states which constitutes the United States of America are represented by these young men and women, who have congregated in Atlanta, sometimes called the "Athens of the South," to secure professional training in the field of their chosen vocation.

Other states to which this group refer as their native homes include: Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, Arkansas, Indiana, North Carolina, Illinois, Ohio, Louisiana, New Jersey, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Michigan, Virginia and Kansas.

### GEORGIA LEADS

Georgia leads the list with seventeen young people coming from Atlanta, Savannah and Augusta. North Carolina, with such cities as Durham, Greenville, Greensboro and Winston-Salem, comes next with eleven men and wome. Running a close race with ten representatives comes Louisiana—the majority of whom are from New Orleans. Maryland has six; Ohio has five and New Jersey four. The other states have one or two native sons or daughters who proudly refer to some city within them as their "home-town."

Forty-four colleges and universities, representative of a widely scattered area, have graduates who have entered the School of Social Work for additional training. Of the local colleges, Clark University leads the list, with Morehouse, Spelman, Morris Brown and Atlanta University having alumni among the present student body.

### LIST SCHOOLS

Other outstanding institutions from a far-flung territory, which are graduates at the School are San Francisco State College, San Francisco, California; University of Illinois, Urbana; Cornell University, Ithaca, New York; Hamline University of St. Paul, Minn; Kansas University, Lawrence; University of Athens; San Diego State University, San Diego, California; Ohio State University of Columbus; Samuel Huston College Austin, Texas; West Virginia State College of Institute, Virginia; Virginia Union University of Richmond; Lincoln University of Oxford Pennsylvania; Marquette University of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Morgan College of Baltimore, Maryland; Howard University of Washington, D. C.; Knoxville College, Knoxville, Tennessee; Nebraska Wesleyan University of Lincoln, Nebraska, and several others.

With a total of seventy-six full-time and four part-time students, the enrollment of the Atlanta University School of Social Work this year is the largest in the history of the institution. Director Washington has assured each of them, however, that the individualized and specialized supervision for which the School is noted, will be continued for each student.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

California

# Houston Named On Six Million Dollar Los Angeles Better Housing Project

## Race Residential Section to Get Huge Section in $25,000,000 Slum Clearance Allotment.

LOS ANGELES, July 28—(ANP)—Norman O. Houston, secretary-treasurer of the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company, and Mrs. Edith Jones were named by Mayor Frank L. Shaw to the vacancies on the City Housing commission. Mrs. Jones is the wife of Atty. Clarence A. Jones and is active in civic and community affairs.

The City Housing commission, not to be confused with the City Housing authority, will serve in an advisory capacity to the housing authority which is charged with the duty of carrying out the 25 million dollar slum clearance program that is expected to get under way in the near future.

Plans are under way to locate one of the new slum clearance projects in the colored district and rumor has it that the project will cost in the neighborhood of five or six million dollars.

The housing commission was created by the city charter and has functioned since that time as an advisory body in affairs relating to housing problems. The new slum clearance program makes it of much greater importance than previously, and Negro membership on it is expected to provide a means for Negroes to make known their wants in the new program.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938

Conference for Work With the Blind. (Alabama.)

# State Blind Hold Conference At Tuskegee Institute Saturday

TUSKEGEE, ALA., April 24.—First conference for work with blind in Macon County was held at Tuskegee Institute yesterday. Delegates came from Cowles Station, Shorter, Talladegal, Montgomery and United States veterans facility through cooperation of Mrs. Mattie Gilbert director of adult education for blind and director institute for deaf and blind, Talladega.

Dr. E. H. Dibble, manager U. S. veterans facility, Dr. F. D. Patterson, president Tuskegee Institute, Sadie Peterson, Delaney librarian U. S. veterans facility, Mrs. Harry Simon director bureau, assistant State Department Welfare, Montgomery in her address on "Social Security Provision for Aid of Blind," said that Alabama has 1.415 blind. Five hundred, not including those under 15 nor over 65 have received aid since March 1 1937. Mrs. Mattie Gilbert brought with her, three young women from the institute of Talladega. Two of these young women were totally blind and one with 10 per cent sight, demonstrated how they earned from $40 to $55 per month making smocks, aprons and pillow cases.

Forty-two young women trained in the blind school are now earning their living sewing in their own homes, Mrs. Gilbert stated. It is not easy to place blind men and she reported that three Braille projects at a total cost of over $128,000 have been established in Birmingham, Montgomery and Mobile.

There are 365 talking books in the State with 253 already placed. Mrs. Gilbert paid tribute to S. P. Delaney for her fine aid in placing books and canes to the Lions Club and to the Alabama Federation of Women's Clubs for selling $4,000 articles made by the blind girls.

Mrs. Marjorie Vines, State director WPA project for the blind, stated that 50 people are at present employed in transcribing books into Braille. Two hundred books will soon be available. Among them are song books, fiction, poetry, and instructions on how to tune pianos. A newspaper in Braille will be undertaken soon.

Other speakers on the program were Dr. S. P. E. Glagg, a blind delegate from Montgomery, Dr. F. D Patterson, president Tuskegee Institute, James Forman, president Helen Keller class, U. S. veterans facility, Dr. T. T. Tildon, Dr. J. A. Kennedy, Mrs. L. R. Daly, home demonstration agent, Macon County, S. P. Delaney, B. B. Walcott, directors of the friendship leaguers of the blind, Mrs. C. H. Gibson and Mrs. A. P. Smith, were presented.

Session closed with ten minute forum conducted by Mrs. Simon, Mrs. Ernestine Kelly, Miss Vines and an exhibit of art talking books, Braille from the institute in Talladega, and the U. S. veterans facility.

The blind delegates were served delicious refreshments through the courtes of Dr. F. D. Patterson, and S. E. Elliott, director school home economics. Outstanding among the delegates were Brother Dillard and his wife, who were brought in from 15 miles in the country through the courtesy of Mayor G. B. Edwards, of Tuskegee.

These old people are over 70 years old and have been blind for many years. Mrs. Simon and the workers from the State department were unanimous in the hope that the conference become an annual affair.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938.

Connecticut.

# 26 Cities Send Delegates to Conn Social Conference

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Two hundred nineteen delegates representing 26 cities and 78 organizations, attended the first annual Connecticut Social and Occupational Conference, which was held at Dixwell Avenue Congregational Church here, Saturday.

Officers selected for the coming year were:

Edward H. Goins, New Haven president; J. B. Lassiter, Waterbury, first vice president; J. W Williams, Branford, second vice president; Nathaniel Hopkins, South Norwalk, third vice president; Alver Napper, Hartford, executive secretary; Mrs. Grace E. Steady, New Haven, recording and financial secretary; and Mrs. Laura B. McCoy, New Haven, treasurer.

D.C.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

# Washington's $1,800,000 Housing Project To Be Finished In April

### Franklin Thorne, Hampton and New York U. Graduate, Appointed As House Manager—There Are 274 Dwelling Units

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27—Nathan Straus, administrator of the United States Housing Authority, today announced the appointment of Franklin Thorne as housing manager of Langston, the government's $1.800.000 low-rent housing project located at 21st street and Benning road, Northeast, in Washington, D. C.

The Langston project provides 274 dwelling units, consisting of 2-, 3- and 4-room apartments, 3-room flats, and 4- and 5-room group houses for Negro families in the lower-income groups. It is expected that the project will be completed in April.

Formal applications for dwellings in Langston, will be taken in a few weeks. All persons who have filled out registration forms and who appear to be eligible will be requested by letter to file a formal application. Letters will be sent out in accordance with priority of registration.

Mr. Thorne, a native of the District of Columbia, is a graduate of New York University and Hampton Institute. He also attended Howard University. He served as assistant management supervisor in the housing division of the Public Works Administration and took part in the initial management of low-rent housing projects for Negroes in Atlanta, Ga., Atlantic City, New Jersey, and Cleveland, O.

Washington, D. C. Post
May 1, 1938

## $1,842,000 Housing Project Opens Here

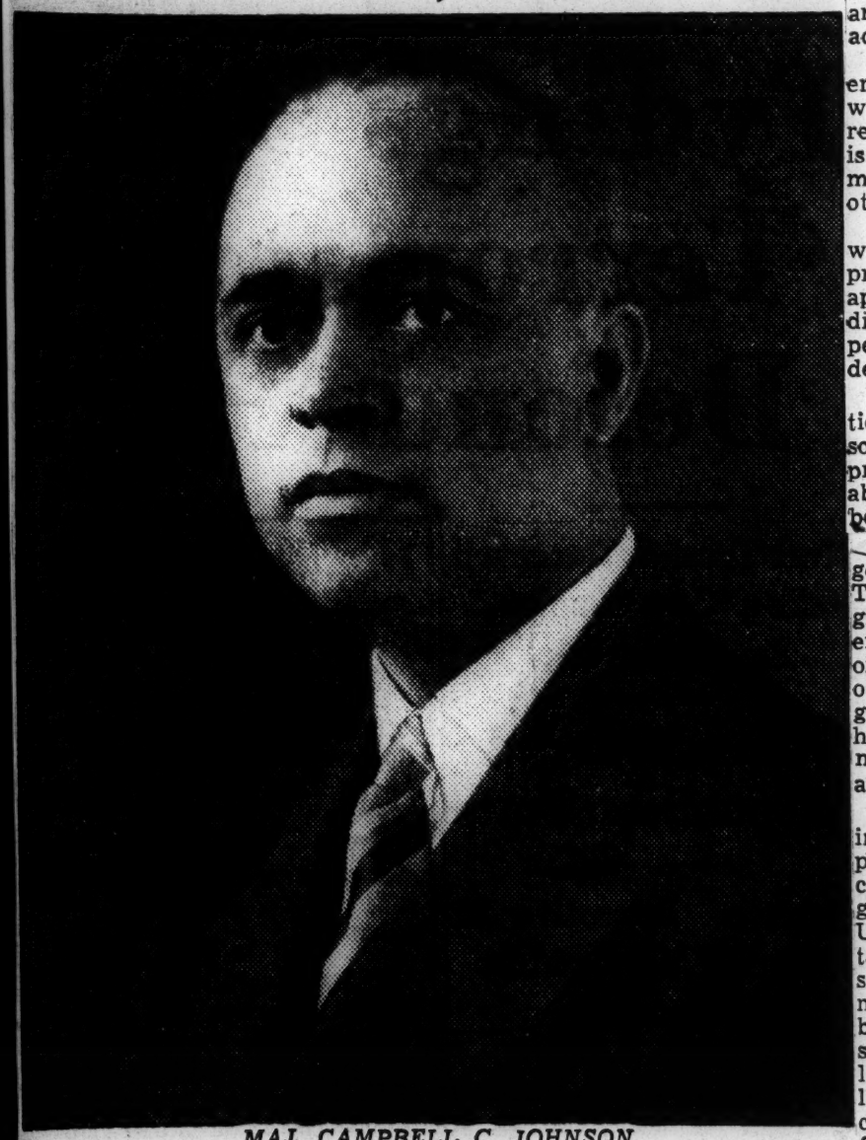
*Above—One of the 40 colored families who moved into the Government's new housing project yesterday on H street northeast, Basic rent for the 274 dwellings in the project averages $5.40 per room a month, with an additional $2.05 per room for lighting, cooking, refrigerators, etc. Below—Samson Washington, a baker's helper, the first tenant in the Langston project, enjoys a meal with his family in their new modern kitchen.*

Washington, D. C. Post
August 22, 1938

## Working for Washington

. . . .

# Colored Population Is Faced With Job Crisis, Johnson Finds



*MAJ. CAMPBELL C. JOHNSON.*

### Secretary of Twelfth Street Y. M. C. A. Believes Housing Here Is Another Major Problem for Members of His Race.

By Christine Sadler

Unemployment, with no prospect for re-employment, is the outstanding problem facing Washington's colored population today, in the opinion of Maj. Campbell C. Johnson, executive secretary of the Twelfth Street Y. M. C. A. and social service expert.

Although the percentage of colored persons in the District totals slightly more than 25 per cent, above 50 per cent of persons registered with the employment service are colored—making the problem of distinct racial significance.

Johnson does not find that the percentage increase has been caused principally by migration during the depression years and doubts that the migration of colored persons to the Capital during the depression has been proportionately as great as in former years.

**Extraordinary Problem.**

"It has been caused in part by changes in employment policy and in part by the fact that this community has a definite level of employment for colored persons. Our problem is more extraordinary than in some other places because we are not waiting for any factory to open up, or for business to get better. Business is good in the District. The Government has more employes, and department stores and other places of business are active," he points out.

Johnson believes, along with others of his race, that the community will have to work out some plan to remedy the situation. He thinks it is something for the District Commissioners to consider, as well as for other District leaders to think about.

"The colored leaders are eager and willing to consider any constructive program. I don't believe anybody appreciates the need for getting the disproportionate number of colored persons off relief than they do," he declares.

Hesitating to compare the situation with that facing colored persons in other cities, Johnson expressed the opinion that "we probably are a little more impotent here because we do not have suffrage."

Housing he sees as the second biggest colored problem in Washington. The Alley Dwelling Authority's program is beginning to have a real effect, he finds; but the rents colored persons have to pay "are still out of all proportion to what they get." He hopes to see a large FHA housing development for the colored modeled along lines of Falkland and Colonial Village.

A native of Washington, Johnson interrupted his college education to participate in the World War as a captain. Upon his return, he organized the R. O. T. C. at Howard University, was professor of military science and tactics at that school, and was commissioned a major. He still teaches at Howard, but today as an instructor in social service; for after he had completed literary and law courses and tried legal practice for two years, he became convinced he liked the social field better.

He has been executive secretary of the Twelfth Street "Y" since 1923. The "Y" was organized in 1853 by a colored Government clerk. Its first members were made up mostly of free colored persons who lived and worked in the District. It is the oldest colored "Y" in the world.

**Active in Civic Work.**

Johnson is on the board of almost every large community welfare organization in Washington—the Family Service Association, the Council of Social Agencies, the Community Chest, the Washington Housing Association, and the Southwest Community House being among them He has been secretary for the Capital Unit of the Community Chest every year since its organization. He helped organize the Southeast House and the Northwest Settlement House, is on the board of the Industrial Bank of Washington, and is president of the Francis Junior High Home and School Association.

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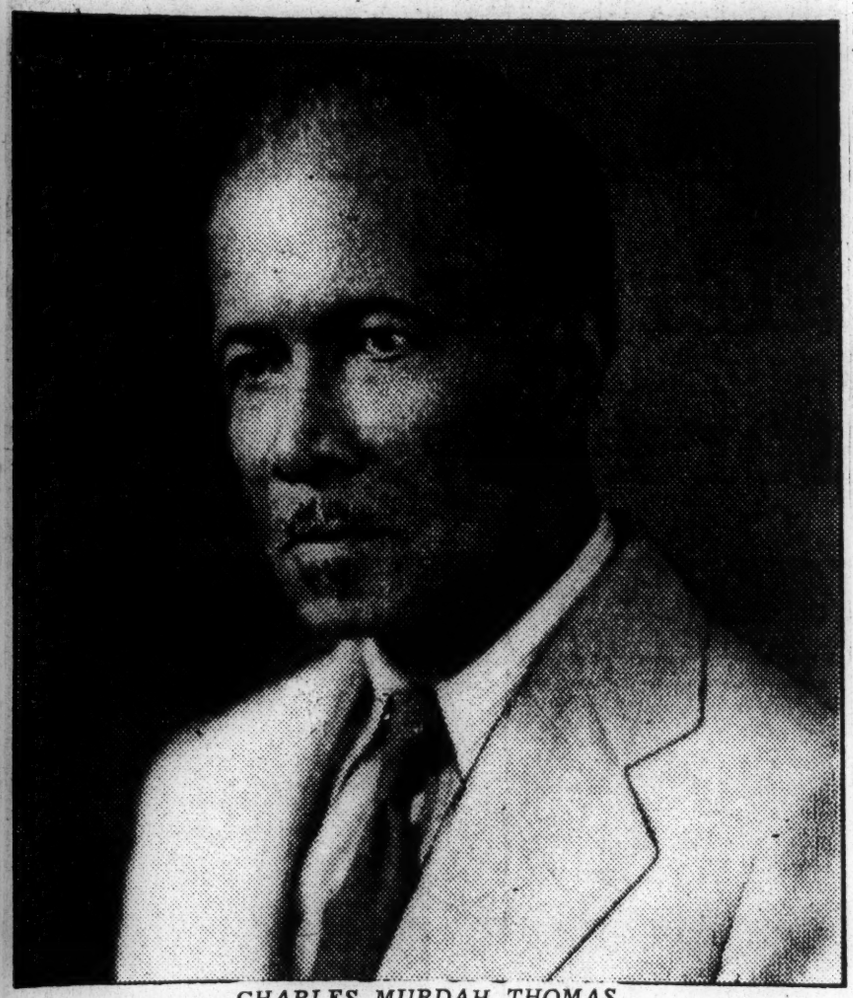
*On Wednesday—Dr. Howard Payne, tuberculosis specialist and civic leader, will be next in the "Working for Washington" series.*

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938 D.C.

Washington, D. C. Post
August 19, 1938

**Working for Washington**

# *Housing, Suffrage Are Aims Of Colored Federation Head*



*CHARLES MURDAH THOMAS,*
*President, Federation of Civic Associations.*

## Charles M. Thomas Sees Local Racial Problem Intensified by Influx of Rural Folk; Battles 'Side Show' of Harlem Type.

With a higher percentage of colored persons in its population than is to be found in any other American city except New Orleans, Washington—since days following the Civil War—has been the proving ground for theories connected with the Nation's inter-racial problem.

The local problem is intensified because it is neither that of the North nor of the South, and because to the best educated and most urbanized members of the race—which are found here in great numbers—annually are added droves of the least educated and the most rural.

Charles Murdah Thomas, president of the Federation of Civic Associations and a long-time leader in efforts of the District's colored people to assume responsibility for their own elevation, estimates that 77,000 of the 160,000 Negroes today in the National Capital were born "south of the Potomac."

**Urbanization Is Aim.**

"Probably more than members of other races they look toward Washington as the place where all their worries will be washed away. It has become a habit with them," he says. The urbanization of these rural-minded oncomers is one of his special interests. He hopes that they can be fitted into the local colored pattern of life and that the whole pattern can be incorporated into the District as a real American element—not as a "side show" of the Harlem variety.

Twenty-one affiliated groups with a membership totaling close to 1,000 make up the Federation of Civic Associations. Its principal objectives for the coming year, according to Thomas, have to do with the local housing problem as typified in work of the Alley Dwelling Authority and with a study of the suffrage problem "in its relation to the need for increased Federal expenditure in the District." The organization has gone on record in favor of local suffrage, but is not interested in national representation for the District.

A native of the District and the son of a father who was an attorney here during the Reconstruction era, Thomas studied both law and medicine—but turned to economics and social science after the World War because he believed that without direction through social service his people were destined to become the American peasantry. He is a teacher of civics and economics at Armstrong High School, a member of the committee appointed to revise the tax structure of the District and a well known journalist.

**Hails Movement.**

The community center movement is hailed by Thomas as the "great socializing agency" of today. A right understanding of it, he believes, will prevent the "oppression psychosis" which he sees increases everywhere among the masses who "do not understand the social movements that affect them."

Johnson terms himself a "plain-living conservative" and has always looked upon American citizenship as a two-sided affair in which the duties equaled the rights and in which privileges should be matched with responsibilities. He is as proud of the letters of commendation he received for his work as a night foreman of a garage in 1906 and 1907 as the praise which has come his way for establishing a laboratory for the study of experimental psychology at Miner Normal School, for editing the Daily American, for starting the Progressive Consumer Magazine, and for other evidences of his intellectual leadership.

"A revival of the old faith, in this new age, will alone keep America off the rocks," he declares.

Washington, D. C. Post
September 9, 1938

# Board Named On Housing For Colored

## Committee Appointed as $15,000,000 USHA Loan for D. C. Is About to Go Through Moving of Whites Is Studied.

Appointment of an advisory committee on housing for colored people was announced yesterday by the Alley Dwelling Authority as final preparations were being made to secure a loan of $15,000,000 from the United States Housing Authority for low-cost housing projects.

Members of the committee are Dr. Garnet C. Wilkinson, assistant superintendent of schools; Miss Mae C. Hawes, head worker of the Southeast Settlement House, and Charles E. Hall, retired junior administrative assistant at the Census Bureau.

At its first meeting with the authority yesterday the committee viewed plans for three colored housing projects expected to hold from 600 to 700 families.

**Working on Five**

The authority has architects at work now on five housing projects, two of them designed for white occupancy. Under the $15,000,000 which the USHA has set aside for the ADA a total of 12 projects are contemplated.

It is expected that final preparations will be completed in the near future so that a contract can be signed for loan of the money for a 60-year period.

Although no decision has yet been made it is likely that a majority of the 12 projects will be for colored occupancy. Washington has been surpassed only by New York and Los Angeles in the amount of new home construction during the past three or four years, but housing conditions have not improved for colored people here.

**Watch White Shifts**

Housing officials here are watching closely the shift of the white population to the new homes. The great bulk of new construction here has been homes and apartments too expensive for people in lower income brackets. Whether the shift to new homes will make decent dwellings available to people of low incomes remains to be determined.

In announcing the new committee John Ihlder, executive officer of the ADA, said that the varied knowledge of the three members would be valuable in planning colored developments.

# Study of Public Housing Added To Curriculum of D. C. School

## Class In Vocational Home Management to Be Given As "Living Experiences"

WASHINGTON, D. C.—When the boys and girls of Evansville, Indiana, returned to their desks in Lincoln High School Monday, September 12, they found in the school's curriculum a new supplementary course of study, public housing.

The new course deals with Lincoln Gardens, the slum clearance and low rent rehousing project of the United States Housing Authority, of which Nathan Straus is administrator, located directly across the street from the high school. Consisting of 16 study units, the course is offered to students in the eighth grade and extends through the eleventh.

### INNOVATIONS

Not only is the course something entirely new to the Lincoln High School students but, according to an Indiana University professor, it may possibly become an innovation in the curricula of public schools throughout the country.

Designed to inculcate the principles of better living and to teach resident students and others the fullest use of the Government-financed project, the course was worked out by Charles E. Rochelle, Lincoln teacher, in co-operation with Ralph Irons, superintendent of schools; Harold Spears, director of research and secondary education; and William E. Best, principal of Lincoln High School.

In the eighth grade, subjects in the course include the study of the history of the housing program, the administration of the Lincoln Gardens project, learning to live at home, and community relationships.

Ninth grade subjects in the course include the study of health, recreation, home management, and home mechanics. Tenth grade students will be taught how to refinish furniture for the home. And in the eleventh grade, budgeting and accounting will be taught.

### IMPORTANT COURSE

The class in vocational home management is expected to be one of the most important units in the new course. In this class will be taught efficient management of the apartment unit, orderliness and cleanliness, skill in the performance of home duties, proper understanding of the purchase of furnishings, and creation of an attitude of co-operation in the use of joint facilities, such as laundries and recreation rooms, in the project.

Commenting upon the course of study, Mr. Irons said:

"We hope through these units which teach proper health, safety, budgeting and family relations methods, residents can get the most from the use of the new apartments."

In the opinion of Prof. Otto F. Hamilton, of Indiana University, the course "should prove to be a valuable addition to the curricular experience of the pupils." After the course was drawn up it was submitted to Prof. Hamilton for review and approval.

"So far as I know this is the first attempt to tie the work of local schools up with these Federal Housing projects by introducing such functional units of study into the local school work," Prof. Hamilton asserted. "This certainly is making use of life situations in the school curriculum. . . .In my opinion Lincoln High School and the colored people who are served by it have unusual opportunity to contribute a worthwhile service to the city and to the entire 'Better Housing Movement' in these United States."

### LIVING EXPERIENCES

No examinations are to be given in any subjects of this course, according to Principal Best. "They are to be given," he asserts, "as living experiences to enrich the lives of the pupilss and adults living in the Lincoln Gardens and to give information and devlop an appreciation for this project to members of our group living in this community.

Lincoln Gardens, a $927,000 project, was opened for occupancy on July 1, by order of Mr. Straus who is Administrator of the United State Housing Authority.

Replacing one of Evansville's worst slum areas, it provides decent living quarters for 191 low-income families. The project is under the management of Dr. Raymond King, who is a member of the field staff of the United States Housing Authority in Washington.

# Work In Housing Division

## Architects Engaged In Slum Clearance

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Recent appointments of a number of Negroes to positions in technical and professional divisions of the United States Housing Authority and to membership on local housing authorities was cited this week by Dr. Robert C. Weaver Special Assistant to USHA Administrator Nathan Straus, as further indication of the desire expressed by the Administrator that there be fuller participation of the race in the Government's $800,000,000 slum clearance and low-rent housing program.

Negroes are now employed on both the Washington and field staffs of the USHA This employment includes policy-making, professional, technical and administrative positions, as well as clerical and skilled jobs.

### MANY LOCAL POSITIONS

In addition to these positions in the USHA, a number of state and city administrations, including one city in the deep South, have named a total of 16 Negroes to membership on local housing authorities, under supervision of which local housing projects are initiated, developed and managed.

Hilyard R. Robinson, of the firm of Robinson and Williams, has been appointed consulting architect by the USHA. The work of Mr. Robinson, who was the principal architect on the Langston low-rent housing project in Washington, has been highly praised by Lewis Mumford and other leading architects.

The new men's dormitory on the campus of Howard University was designed by Mr. Robinson and his associate, Paul R. Williams.

### WORK AS ARCHITECTS

Two other architects, John A. Melby and Julius Gardner, are employed by the technical division. Mr. Gardner was construction engineer on the Langston project and has been named by the Charleston, W. Va., Housing Authority as an architect for projects to be erected in that city. Also in the technical division is Charles S. Duke, an architectural engineer.

J. Parker Prescott is associate supervisor in the management division and David Lane is assistant management auditor in the Division of Finance and Accounts. Under the supervsion of the Management division there are 13 Negroes in managerial positions in USHA projects already completed but not yet leased to local authorities.

Edward P. Lovett, former associate counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was recently appointed a member of the USHA legal staff.

### STAFF OF EIGHT

There also is a staff of eight persons in the Office of the Consultant on Racial Relations. The staff of this office headed by Dr. Weaver, consists of an assistant consultant on racial relations, an assistant for labor relations, an assistant for press relations, a young woman research assistant, and a clerical and stenographic staff of two young women and a man.

Recognition of the needs of the Negro in a low-rent housing program was accorded in the deep South recently when Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, college president and National Youth Administrative executive, was appointed to the local housing authority of Daytona Beach, Florida. In New Haven, Conn., George W. Crawford, attorney and nationally known civic leader, was appointed a member of the New Haven Housing Authority. Dr. E. A. Robinson, a physician, has been named a member of the Asbury Park (N. J.) Housing Authority.

In seven cities where USHA housing projects have been leased to local authorities. Negro men and women are employed on the management staffs

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938 D.C.

# Race Taking Part In U. S. Housing Program

Journal and Guide

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Negroes are participating in all phases of the Government's $800,000,000 slum-clearance and low-rent housing program, Dr. Robert C. Weaver, special assistant to Administrator Nathan Straus of the United States Housing Authority, told delegates attending the Eastern Regional Conference in Baltimore, recently.

The urgent need for public housing among Negroes and the steps taken by the USHA to meet these needs were outlined by Dr. Weaver. The program, he said, is one which is not only making available new housing, but which also is creating thousands of jobs in construction work. Approximately 160,000 new dwellings are to be erected under the program.

If Negroes continue to share in the program at the present rate, about 48,000 families will be rehoused in decent, safe and sanitary homes, the speaker asserted.

**PARTICIPATION UNLIMITED**

Negro participation in this program, according to Dr. Weaver, has not been limited to tenancy and construction.

He said: "We have had a share in the planning, designing, and management of these projects. . . Both through the national office and through the local authorities Negroes have obtained a wide range of participation in this important program. They are serving in policy-making capacities as well as in professional, technical and managerial positions.

"Negroes have more than a passing interest in the future of low-rent housing. As the program expands, there should be even greater participation of colored citizens in public housing. If we are to reach the people who need housing most, we must prepare them for its benefits.

"This means that we must acquaint them with the value of public housing. We must assist them to qualify through aiding them to achieve a greater measure of economic security. Unless these things are done and a conscious effort is made to cooperate with local management in order to extract the maximum social benefits from public housing development, the work of local authorities and the USHA can have no lasting significance.

"Whenever one talks about housing, there is a danger of one's implying too much. Public housing can improve social conditions but it cannot solve all our economic and social ills. It can at best increase the supply of decent housing available to families of low income.

**PROBLEMS REMAIN**

"There still remains the basic problem of adequate income without which we will be unable to pay even these low rentals and maintain a decent standard of living. This means that our purchasing power must be expanded through substantial wage increases.

"Thus, we must never lose sight of our responsibility to aid our people in securing work opportunities and decent working conditions. Only by doing this can we provide the potential tenants with the essential tools for participating in public housing."

# NEGROES GET JOBS IN GOVT. HOUSING PLAN

## Take Part in All Phases of Work

Bee

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 20—Negroes are participating in all phases of the Government's $800,000,000 slum-clearance and low-rent housing program, Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Special Assistant to Administrator Nathan Straus of the United States Housing Authority, told delegates attending the Eastern Regional Conference of the National Negro Congress in Baltimore, Friday night.

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# Urges Need Of Housing For Negroes

Amsterdam News

## Stresses Difference Between USHA and FHA

Herald

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 19—It has appeared evident on many occasions that there exists some confusion in the minds of many persons on the difference between the two phases of the National Government's housing program—slum-clearance and low-rent housing by the UNITED STATES HOUSING AUTHORITY and the stimulation of dwelling construction through government mortgage insurance by the FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION, a release from the U.S.H.A. stated Friday.

10-22-38

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# Largest Negro Slum-Clearance Project In U. S. To Be Built On Chicago's South Side

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Approv
al of a USHA loan of $8,674,000 fo
the Chicago Housing Authority t
construct the South Park Garden
low-rent housing project was grante
last week by President Roosevelt upo
recommendation of Nathan Straus
Administrator of the United State
Housing Authority.

The Chicago project, which wil
provide 1,708 new dwelling units, is
one [illegible] of eleven which the
President approved last week. Of the
5,863 new homes to be constructed
under these loan contracts, more than
one third will be for Negro occupan-
cy, according to an estimate of Dr.
Robert C. Weaver, Special Assistant
to Administrator Straus.

Total loans for these eleven projects
amount to $29,615,000 which will be
used to defray 90 per cent of the
$32,911,000 estimated cost of the
projects. This sum brings to a total
of $232,422,000 the amount of loans
for which, in its first year, the USHA
has signed contracts with local au-
thorities in 52 cities throughout the
country. These loans will provide
for the construction of approximate-
ly 46,499 new dwelling units, approx-
imately 15,000, or one third, of which
will be for Negro occupancy.

In addition to the $232,422,000 rep
resented in loan contracts, there ar
outstanding earmarkings of $341,939,
00 for [illegible] other cities, making a
otal of $574,361,000 in commitment
or cities participating in the Na
ion's $800,000,000 slum-clearance and
ow-rent housing program.

Accompanying each loan contract
approved last week is an annual con-
tributions contract by which the
USHA promises to make annual con
tributions over a sixty-year perio
to the local housing projects of no
more than 3.5 per cent of the tota
development cost. These annual con
tributions are subsidies make to kee
the rents low. They are supplemente
by contributions from the local com
munities. Shelter rents in the eleve
projects will range between $2 and $
per room per month.

The low-rent housing project or
Chicago's South side is the largest ye
to be designated for construction in a
Negro district anywhere in the Unit
ed States and will be built at a total
estimated cost of $9,638,000.

The site is bounded by 37th and
39th streets, Cottage Grove avenue
and South Parkway, and the project,
when completed, will help to relieve
an acute housing problem in Chicago

# United States Housing Authority Has Large Number of Negroes In Office. Field Staff

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### In Technical Positions

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**Mary Pickford** walked into a back alley in Washington, D. C. The camera registers her look of amazement and the wondering expression of a Negro tenement girl. "I don't know how human beings can exist in places like these," said America's onetime sweetheart.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938

The Family.

Columbia, S. C. State
June 12, 1938

# Survey Shows Negro Family Standard Low

Washington, June 11.—(AP)—The agriculture department reported today that a recent standard of living survey showed Negro families residing in villages of Georgia, Mississippi and the Carolinas had little to spend except for bare necessities of life.

The survey covered native Negro families living in 34 "typical" villages of those states.

Food, clothing and housing expenses took the bulk of the family's funds in all income levels ranging from less than $250 a year to $1,500, a report of the survey said. Few families had incomes of more than $1,500.

# WPA Survey Shows How Negroes Of South Spend Their Income

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—According to the results of a WPA survey announced this week by the Bureau of Home Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in 34 villages in Georgia, Mississippi and the Carolinas, the families had no money for anything beyond the bare necessities of life.

Food, clothing and housing expenses took the bulk of the family's funds at six income levels, in $250 intervals, ranging between zero and $1,500 for the year. Although a comprehensive cross section of the native Negro population of the 34 villages was taken, not enough families receiving over $1,500 during the year were found to justify analysis.

Mound Bayou, Miss., with an all-Negro population, was one of the villages included in the survey.

At the lowest income level ($0-249), the Negro families averaged spending $202 a year for their living; an average of $86 for food; $34 for housing; $27 for household operation; $19 for clothing; $11 for medical care; $7 for tobacco; $4 for furnishings and equipment; $4 for personal care; $4 for gifts and community welfare; $2 for recreation; $1 for reading; $1 for formal education; $1 for travel and transportation other than by auto; $1 for miscellaneous items and 50c or less for automobile. These averages are based on all families regardless of whether they had expense for a particular group of goods and services.

At the highest income level ($1,250-$1,499), averages for the five big items of the family account book (food, clothing, housing, household operation and furnishings and equipment), totalled $911, not far from three times as much as the ten remaining items of the family budget in which the average added up to $350. Families at the higher income levels thus were able to devote a larger proportion of their income to items other than food, clothing and shelter.

# Economy Of Living In South Proved; Mobile Low Point

WASHINGTON, June 25.—(AP)—It costs a manual laborer's family of four $317 less to live for a year in Mobile than it does in Detroit.

Those were the cities that stood at the top and bottom of a living cost study made in 31 cities by WPA. The figures were drawn from March 15 prices, compiled by WPA and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Living costs will play a part in the wage fixing that eventually will be done under the new wage and hour law.

The report said the laborer with three dependents could live for $1,144.31 annually in Mobile, as compared with $1,461.40 in Detroit.

Mobile was the only city of the group studied which fell below $1,200 a year. Seven other Southern cities ranged between $1,200 and $1,300 a year. They were Birmingham, Houston, Jacksonville, Memphis, New Orleans, Norfolk and Richmond. Atlanta was just across that line with $1,306.

In other sections, the cities in which living costs were less than $1,300 were Denver, Indianapolis, Kansas City, and Portland, Maine.

Those in which costs ranged between $1,300 and $1,400 a year were Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Portland, Oregon, St. Louis, Scranton, Baltimore, Boston, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Los Angeles and New York.

The cities in which it cost between $1,400 and $1,500 a year to live and $1,461.40, the top set by Detroit, were Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Minneapolis, San Francisco and Washington.

Food costs were highest in New York and lowest in Memphis, Tenn. Jacksonville, Fla., was second highest in food prices.

Expenditures for clothing were greatest in Cleveland, Ohio, and lowest in Mobile.

Housing was considerably more expensive in Washington than in any other city. Mobile was lowest in this expenditure.

Minneapolis was highest in light and fuel costs, with an average of $124.09. the only city reporting more than $100 for this item. Houston was lowest with a cost of $[illegible].

Spartanburg, S. C., Herald
July 22, 1938

# Survey of Farm Homes In South Reveals Many Conveniences Provided

Washington, July 21 (AP).— The Southern farmer, government statistics show, believes in providing his family with the comforts of life.

A "sampling" survey by the bureau of agricultural economics shows that the visitor to a cotton belt farm home is likely to find an automobile parked in front of the house, a radio, piano or phonograph in the living room and a refrigerator in the pantry.

**Many Own Autos**

The survey, consisting of a check of farm families in four Southern states, has disclosed that family ownership of automobiles ranges from 14.6 per cent among negro sharecroppers in Georgia and Mississippi to 70.7 per cent among white farm owners in North and South Carolina.

The figures show that in the Carolinas, 707 out of 1,000 families of white farm owners, 448 out of every 1,000 families of white sharecroppers, and 355 out of every 1,000 families of negro sharecroppers own automobiles. The proportion is given as 425 out of 1,000 for negro farm owners.

**They Enjoy Radios Too**

In a check of radios in 7,127 farm homes in the four states the bureau said the ownership percentage ranged from a high of 40 per cent among white farm owners of North and South Carolina to a low of half of 1 per cent abong Georgia and Mississippi negro sharecroppers.

The proportion of piano ownership ranged, it said, from 23 per cent among North and South Carolina white farm owners to 1 per cent among Georgia and Mississippi negro sharecroppers, while the phonograph ownership ratio scaled from a maximum of 30 per cent among negro farm owners in the Carolinas to 17 per cent among Georgia and Mississippi share croppers. It indicated the phonograph was more popular among negro farmers than white.

**Refrigerators Also Popular**

The bureau reported 40 per cent of 1,944 families of white farm owners in the Carolinas owned ice refrigerators and 7.8 per cent mechanical refrigerators. The corresponding ratio in Georgia and Mississippi was 44.7 per cent and 7.1 per cent of 1.257 families.

In the Carolinas, 20.3 per cent of 630 white share croppers had ice refrigerators and half of 1 per cent mechanical refrigerators, while 17.3 per cent of 433 negro farm owners and 7.6 per cent of 640 negro sharecroppers owned ice refrigerators. The negro ownership of mechanical refrigerators in the Carolinas was reported negligible.

# Survey Discloses How Families In The Southeast Spend Their Earnings

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 17.—There was little place for anything beyond bare necessities in the spending of Race families in 34 villages of Georgia, Mississippi, and the Carolinas, according to results of a survey announced this week by the Bureau of Home Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Food, clothing, and housing expenses took the big bulk of the family's funds at six income levels in $250 intervals ranging between zero and $1500 for the year.

Although a comprehensive cross section of the native Race population of the 34 villages was taken, not enough families receiving over $1500 during the year were found to justify analysis.

**Mound Bayou Studied**

Interesting among the villages included in this study was Mound Bayou, Mississippi, which, with an all-Race population, has been commented upon by sociologists as an example of Race self-government and economic independence.

In the other 33 villages, white families as well as Race families were studied as part of this 1935-36 nation-wide inquiry into how much income the American family makes and how it is spent.

At the lowest income level ($0-$249), the Race families averaged spending $2$2 a year for their living: An average of $86 for food, $34 for housing; $27 for household operation; $19 for clothing; $11 for medical care; seven dollars for tobacco; four dollars for furnishings and equipment; four dollars for personal care; four dollars for gifts and community welfare; two dollars for recreation; one dollar for reading; one dollar for formal education; one dollar for travel and transportation other than by auto; one dollar for miscellaneous items; and 50 cents or less for automobile.

**More for Necessities**

These averages are based on all families regardless of whether they had expense for a particular group of goods and services.

For the poorest families, expense for the 10 items of automobile, travel and transportation, personal care, medical care, recreation, tobacco, reading, education, gifts and community welfare, and other items counted up to less than one-fifth as much as the five "Firsts" in family life—food, clothing, housing, household operation, and furnishings and equipment— $32 as against $170.

As the income rose, substantial increases appeared in the money devoted to family necessities, until at the highest income level ($1250 to $1500), the families were paying four times as much for food, 10 times as much for clothing, twice as much for housing, five times as much for household operation, and 33 times as much for furnishings and equipment as at the lwest income level.

Food expenditures increased from an average of $86 a year to $378 from lowest to highest income levels; clothing, from $19 to $191; housing, from $34 to $70; household operation from $27 to $139; furnishings and equipment, from four dollars to $133.

**Diets Are Inadequate**

"In this study the Bureau of Home Economics has been especially interested in the kind of living that various incomes will buy —whether or not the amount spent on food is sufficient to indicate a diet adequate for health, and whether the money put into housing and household operation is sufficient for good living conditions," says Dr. Louise Stanley, chief of the bureau and director of the family-living survey.

"Analyses of diets of these low-income Negro families indicate that they are inadequate nutritionally. As incomes rise, diets are better; but there still is need for adult education programs designed to help families spend their food money more wisely."

The [illegible] families spent no great sums on automobiles. At all income levels, clothing purchases far exceeded the amount spent on cars, which ranged from an average of less than 50 cents at the lowest level ($0-$249) to $133 at the highest ($1250-$1499). Travel other than automobile ranged from an average of one dollar at the lowest income level to $13 at the highest.

**Important Items Listed**

Other items ranged as follows: medical care, from an average of $11 to $44; personal care, from an average of four dollars to $27; recreation, from two dollars to $35; tobacco from seven dollars to $30; reading, from one dollar to $18; formal education, from one dollar to $13; gifts and community welfare, from four dollars to $51; and other items, from one dollar to six dollars.

At the highest income level, averages for the five big items of the family account book totalled $911, not far from three times as much as the ten remaining items in which the average added up to $350. The families at the higher income levels thus were able to devote a larger proportion of their income to items other than food, clothing, and shelter.

Only nonrelief Race families having both husband and wife, born in this country, were included in this Study of Consumer Purchases. The study is a Works Progress Administration project, conducted by the Bureau of Home Economics in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor, the National Resources Committee and the Central Statistical board.

# Rural Race Man On Relief Not So Bad Off As White Brother. Study Claims

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 5—The rural member of the Race on relief, although better off than his Asian brothers, is faced with greater difficulties than his white neighbors who need aid.

This fact, and other disclosures related to the rural Race man on relief, were made public in a recent study by the Works Progress Administration and assembled in a monograph entitled "Effects of the Works Program on Relief."

The investigation on which this report is based was made by the WPA division of Social Research. The major study was conducted in sample counties in Montana, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa, West Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia.

**Comparison in Two States**

Only in North Carolina and Georgia was any attempt made to break down the findings as between blacks and whites.

"In private industry," the report observes, "Negroes earnings averaged considerably less than those of whites, but on the Works Program the difference between their earnings and those of whites was not so great.

"White heads of households employed on the works program reported smaller average earnings than did whites employed in private industry, but Negroes employed on the works program reported average earnings GREATER than those received by Negroes employed in private industry."

Before the survey was started, social service research workers of the WPA had discovered that an examination of the family and personal traits of the Race members on relief rolls disclosed striking differences from those of whites.

**Marital Status a Factor**

For one thing, they found that the hardships of members of the Race arose, in part, from family and marital difficulties, with broken families and the resultant social and economic handicaps more general among the group. Widows were found to be relatively more numerous in the relief and non-relief populations. This was especially true among widowed Race women.

A rather striking fact brought out by a relief census of October, 1933, was that of all Negroes on relief under the age of 45, the majority were females. Moreover, a bare six per cent of the male Race workers on relief rolls in 1933 were inexperienced workers—this is, those seeking employment who had performed no gainful work during the past 10 years.

This census also revealed that about one-fifth of the female workers in urban areas, and one-third in rural areas were inexperienced.

**Education is Limited**

Formal education of Race members on relief was quite limited, the census also showed. In urban communities one-tenth, and in rural communities one-sixth of the Race workers on the rolls in March, 1933, had not completed as much as one year of schooling. Relatively half as many blacks as whites had obtained eight or more years of education in school.

With little or no education or training, and with restricted economic opportunity as compared with persons on relief, Race members had to turn to unskilled labor to earn a living. Thus, two-thirds of the male and nine-tenths of the female Race workers reported unskilled occupations.

"A partial explanation," the published study states, "was found in the type of work to which women heads of households were usually assigned on the Works program. Some of the sewing work, in which the majority were employed, was classified as semi-skilled, whereas the women engaged in this work had usually been employed in domestic service or farm labor, classed as unskilled."

At the time of the survey, North Carolina and Georgia were in Region IV where the security wage rates for rural areas were from $19 to $39 a month. On July 1, 1936 all states in this region were transferred to WPA wage scale Region III, where the security wage for rural counties was from $21 to $42 a month.

Workers, the survey reveals, received an average of $21 in Georgia and $22 in North Carolina. Members of the Race received $20 and $19 in the two states, as compared with $22 and $24 for whites. As the security wage rates were the same for whites and blacks for the same grade of work, these differences in earning are related to the greater proportions of white employed at skilled occupations which command higher rates.

When the Works program earnings are compared with the earnings of those workers who have secured private employment, it appears that private earnings were almost twice as great as Works program earnings in West Virginia and among Georgia whites.

Also in West Virginia and among North Carolina whites, private earnings are greater than average private earnings in South Dakota and among the Race in North Carolina.

The monograph contains many statistical tables analyzing the findings in the seven sample states

Social Conditions, Improvement of—1938 The Family

# Negro Sharecropper Has Lowest Income in South

WASHINGTON. — In its survey of family income for farm families, the United State bureau of home economics summary for the Southeast region gives comparisons between Negro and white sharecropper families in four states: Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina.

The figures indicate the close similarity of economic status between the two racial groups on the lowest rungs of the agricultural ladder.

In combining the state results, the Farm Research publication has hound that the cash income of the Negro sharecropper families studied in the 13 counties covered was $294.25, while white sharecropper families in 22 counties sampled averaged $350.50 per family.

Relief family incomes were not analyzed and hence are not included.

Conditions were found to be worst in Georgia. Money farm incomes averaged $171 per family in the case of white sharecroppers and $153 in the case of Negroes. An additional $32 and $22 respectively came from non-farm sources, indicating practically no opportunity to supplement farm income by other kinds of work.

Sixty-seven per cent of the white families and 87 per cent of the Negro families received less than $750 gross income. None of the Negro families earned as much as $1,000 from all sources.

Families in each group averaged 5.4 persons. Of the white families 11 per cent were on relief and of the Negro families this was true of five per cent.

The bureau of home economics cautions its readers concerning the figures in the report, saying that "in using these figures it must be membered that the areas, chosen as adapted to a given type of farming (as wheat or cotton), often were not typical of the state as a whole, frequently being better than average.

* * * * * * * * * *

**Average Cash Farm Income of Non-relief Sharecropper Families in Four States**

| | Cash Farm Income | % On Relief |
|---|---|---|
| Georgia | | |
| Negro Sharecroppers | $153 | 6.3 |
| White Sharecroppers | 171 | 5.8 |
| Mississippi | | |
| Negro Sharecroppers | $275 | 5.1 |
| White Sharecroppers | 295 | 5.2 |
| North Carolina | | |
| Negro Sharecroppers | $510 | 6.5 |
| White Sharecroppers | 619 | 5.2 |
| South Carolina | | |
| Negro Sharecroppers | $239 | 5.8 |
| White Sharecroppers | 317 | 5.1 |

## Southeast Survey Finds Worst Farm Conditions In Georgia

In its survey of family income for farm families the U. S. Bureau of Home Economics summary for the Southeast region gives comparisons between Negro and white sharecropper families in four states: Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

The figures indicate the close similarity of economic status between the two racial groups on the lowest rungs of the agricultural ladder. In combining the state results, Farm Research finds that the cash income of the Negro sharecropper families studied in the 13 counties covered was $294.25, while white sharecropper families in 22 counties sampled averaged $350.50 per family. Relief family incomes were not analyzed and hence are not included. Conditions were found to be worst in Georgia. Money farm incomes average $171 per family in the case of white sharecroppers and $153 in the case of Negroes. An additional $32 and $22 respectively came from non-farm sources, indicating practically no opportunity to supplement farm income by other kinds of work. 67% of the white families and 87% of the Negro families received less than $750 gross income. None of the Negro families earned as much as $1,000 from all sources. Families in each group averaged 5.4 persons. Of the white families 11% were on relief and of the Negro families 5%.

**Average Cash Farm Income of Non-relief Sharecropper Families In Four States**

| | Cash Farm Income | % on Relief |
|---|---|---|
| Georgia | | |
| Negro Sharecroppers | $153 | 6.3 |
| White " | 171 | 5.8 |
| Mississippi | | |
| Negro Sharecroppers | 275 | 5.1 |
| White " | 295 | 5.2 |
| North Carolina | | |
| Negro Sharecroppers | 510 | 6.5 |
| White " | 619 | 5.2 |
| South Carolina | | |
| Negro Sharecroppers | 239 | 5.8 |
| White " | 317 | 5.1 |

The BHE cautions its readers concerning the figure in the report saying that "in using these figures it must be remembered that the areas, chosen as adapted to a given type of farming (as wheat or cotton), often were not typical of the state as a whole, frequently being better than average."

Anderson, S. C., Mail
October 1, 1938

## COUNTRY LIFE COSTS LESS

Charts presented by Jonathan Daniels, author of "A Southerner Discovers The South," and editor of The Raleigh, N. C., News and Observer, show that more than 60 per cent of the negroes who live in the north central cities of the United States make more than $1,000 a year, while more than 50 per cent of the negroes in Southern rural communities make less than $500 a year.

It is true that the cash income of all races who till the soil is lower than their brothers in the cities, but on the other hand such items as rent and provender really should be added to the ruralists income because he gets a major portion of both of these off the land whereas the city dweller pays for them out of his income.

Deduct rent and board from the income of the city dweller and you automatically close materially the apparent economic gap.

Add the cash value of peace and contentment to the ruralist's income and you have him away out in front of the urbanite.

Columbia, S. C. State
July 29, 1938

## THRIFT AMONG NEGROES.

"Negroes, contrary to common belief, seem to do a better job of living within their incomes than whites." The magazine Business Week draws this incidental conclusion from a study by the federal bureau of labor statistics. Some other deductions are interesting. "Negro families spend more on clothing than white families of corresponding means." The average white family in New England did not live within its income unless that income was above $2,000. The prize for thrift goes to families in medium-sized West Central cities. Southern families spend a larger proportion of their income on food and household operations generally than do families in other regions.

# Income of Southern Rural Family Shows Differential

## National Resources Committee Makes Report

WASHINGTON, D. C.— While the average (mean) income of white families in southern rural communities is 1,535, that of colored families is only $566, the National Resources Committee estimated in its report submitted last Saturday to President Roosevelt.

The estimates were based directly on data on family incomes which had become available from a nation-wide sample through the Study of Consumer Purchases, a WPA project conducted by the Bureau of Home Economics in cooperation with the National Resources Committee and the Central Statistical Board.

Because colored people constitute such a large percentage of the population, they were sampled more extensively in a study of the marked dissimilarities in the income distribution of racial groups.

A table shows that the average income (median) of white families (non-relief in Southern rural communities was $1,100), as compared with $480 received by colored families in the same communities.

SOUTHERN CITIES

In Southern cities of 2,500 population and over, the average (mean)

## Estimates Based On Study Made As WPA Project

income of white families was $1,570, as compared with $525 received by colored families, while the average mean income of white families was $2,019 and that of colored families $635.

In North Central cities of 100,000 population and over, the average (median) income of white families was $1,720, as compared with $1,095 received by colored families, while the average (mean) income of white families was $2,616, as compared with $1,227 of colored families.

The committee submitted another chart indicating that in both urban and rural Southern communities the mean income of non-relief white families in 1935-36 was about three times that of colored families.

# INCOME OF FAMILIES OF GROUP IS AROUND $471 A YEAR OR LESS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Negro still remains the lowest paid group of the nation a 104-page document of the National Resources Committee submitted to President Roosevelt Saturday revealed. The average family income of one-third of the nation was only $471 in 1935-36, and the race was mostly in the group and often lower.

**Low Income of Negroes**

Because Negroes constitute such a large percentage of the population they were sampled more extensively in a study of the marked dissimilarities in the income distribution of racial groups, the report explained.

The following table shows the average incomes of white and Negro families (non-relief) in Southern rural communities and cities and in North Central cities:

| Region and type of community. | [Average income per family] [Median] White. | Negro. | [Mean] White. | Negro. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Southern rural communities | $1,100 | $480 | $1,535 | $566 |
| Southern cities of 2,500 population and over | 1,570 | 525 | 2,019 | 635 |
| North Central cities of 100,000 population and over | 1,720 | 1,095 | 2,616 | 1,227 |

The committee submitted another chart indicating that in both urban and rural Southern communities the mean income of non-relief white families in 1935-36 was about three times that of non-relief Negro families. Its report added:

"The disparity was somewhat less in North Central cities of 100,000 and over, but even there the mean income for Negro families was less than half that for white families."

**Usefulness of the Results**

In commenting on the results of its study, the committee said:

"Any attempt on the part of the Government or business to grapple with basic economic problems must rely heavily on what can be learned of the distribution of income among the various groups of the nation's consumers.

"Since the stream of income plays so important a part in the national economy, it is imperative that we add to our present meager knowledge of the channels through which it passes.

"Those concerned with the living standards of the people need more accurate information on the extent to which shortage of income brings poverty damaging to health and happiness. Law-making bodies striving to apportion taxes equitably and without damage to the processes of industry need to know what will swell or deplete the stream.

**Regional Variation in Pattern**

The report points out that differences in income patterns are to be expected in different sections of the country which have diverse agricultural and industrial characteristics.

The following table shows the average incomes of families in five geographic regions, based on sample data for 1935-36:

AVERAGE INCOME PER FAMILY

| Geographic Region | [Median] All Families | [Median] Non-relief Families* | [Mean] All Families | [Mean] Non-relief Families |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Engl'd | $1,230 | $1,365 | $1,810 | $2,011 |
| N. Central | 1,260 | 1,410 | 1,786 | 1,973 |
| South | 905 | 985 | 1,326 | 1,431 |
| Mt. & Plains | 1,040 | 1,220 | 1,363 | 1,537 |
| Pacific | 1,335 | 1,485 | 1,775 | 1,937 |

*The nonrelief group excludes all families receiving any direct or work relief (however little) at any time during year.

"According to this comparison, the families in the New England region, with a mean income of $1,180, fared slightly better—in terms of dollar income—than the families of other regions," the report went on.

"The families in the North Central and in the Pacific Coast regions came next in order with mean incomes of $1,786 and $1,775, respectively. The averages of the Mountain and Plains regions and for the sample covered in the South were considerably lower, amounting to $1,363 and $1,326.

"The 29,400,300 families in the population during 1935-36 were by far the most important group of income-spending units, including nearly 91 per cent of the total body of consumers.

**Distribution by Groups**

"The distribution of these 29 million families by income level is as follows: 14 per cent of all families received less than $500 during the year studied; 42 per cent received less than $1,000, 55 per cent less than $1,500, and 87 per cent less than $2,500.

"Above the $2,500 level there were about 10 per cent with incomes up to $5,000, about 2 per cent receiving between $5,000 and $10,000, and only 1 per cent with incomes of $10,000 or more.

"Although almost 4,000,000 families and single individuals in this lower third were dependent on relief for at least part of the total year, fully 70 per cent of the total number—that is, a little more than 9,000,000—received no assistance of any kind from a relief agency.

"About 1,700,000 of this non-relief group were independent single men living alone as lodgers: almost the same number, 1,600,000 were single women, and 5,900,000 were families of two or more persons.

"Somewhat more than half of these non-relief families lived on farms or in rural communities of less than 2,500 population, and about one-sixth—just 1,000,000—lived in cities of 100,000 population or more.

"According to occupation, these families were almost equally divided between wage earners and farmers, with only one-fifth—1,200,000 in all—in other occupational groups.

"The share of the aggregate income received by this lower third of the nation was just over 10 per cent of the total of $59,000,000,000. The average income of the group—that is, the mean income of the 13,000,000 consumer units—was $471.

Social Conditions, Improvement of — 1938

The Family

# NEGROES TO SHARE IN LOW RENT PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept 29 — Low income Negro families from coast to coast and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf, are now scheduled to share in the government's $800,000,000 low-rent housing program.

The nation's slum clearance campaign was considerably extended when President Roosevelt approved contracts for loans by the United States Housing Authority to local Housing Authorities in Annapolis, Md.; Oakland Calif.; Buffalo, N. Y.; and Mobile Ala., which were among 18 cities which loan contracts amounting to $48,279,000 were recently recommended by Nathan Straus USHA administrator.

Of the 10,140 dwelling units to be constructed in these 18 cities, 3,381 or one-third have been designated for Negro occupancy, according to Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Special Assistant to Administrator Straus. Negro applicants will be considered for tenancy in many projects which have been built predominately for white occupancy.

These loans bring to a total of $202,807,000 the amount of funds which the government has so far covered in loan contracts in this war on the slums of the nation. This should provide for the construction of new housing for 40,636 low income families in 43 cities. Nearly 12,000 of these dwelling units have been designated for Negro occupancy.

In addition to Oakland, Annapolis, Buffalo and Mobile, the eighteen cities for which loan contracts have been approved recently include the following cities in which projects are to be developed for predominant Negro ocupancy: Covington, Ky. Newark, N. J.; Chester, Pa.. Corpus Christi, Texas; and Huntington, W. Va.

The loans cover not more than 90 per cent of the total costs of developing the various projects, the local authorities contributing the remainder. Accompanying each loan contract is an annual contributions contract in which the USHA promises to make annual contributions to the local housing authorities. These loans will enable the local housing authorities to keep the rents within reach of low income families, ranging from $2.75 to $4.25 per room per month.

The government's slum clearance and low-rent housing program will ultimately provide 148,300 dwelling units to rehouse 600,000 persons, according to an estimate of Mr. Straus. A total of $889,000,000, including the 10 per cent contribution of local authorities, will be expended on this program. Of this sum about $258,000,000 will be paid to construction workers on the site. An estimated $400,000,000 will be paid to workers employed in the fabrication and transportation of building materials and equipment to be used in the projects.

Negro labor, skilled and unskilled, will participate in this extensive construction program. In order to insure adequate consideration of Negro labor, the office of Racial Relations and the Division of Labor Relations of the USHA will cooperate with local authorities in the encouragement of contractual provisions designed to assure Negro workers an equitable share of the vast sum of money to be paid out in wages.

# FAMILY INSTITUTE TO BE NEXT WEEK

## Many Organizations Will Meet at Columbia for Welfare Discussions

A family welfare institute will be held in connection with the South Carolina Conference of Social Work meeting at Columbia Tuesday through Thursday, it was announced here yesterday by Edmund P. Grice, president of the social workers conference.

The institute will meet Tuesday in two sessions at the University of South Carolina. Miss Cora Rowzee regional secretary of the Family Welfare Association of America will have general supervision. Instructors will be Miss Mary Buckingham, executive secretary of the Family Welfare society, Lexington, Ky.; Mrs. Isabelle Carter associate professor of social work University of North Carolina, and Miss Elizabeth Lane Porter, of supervisor of the Family Welfare society, New Orleans, and a member of Tulane University's faculty.

Miss Mary Phelps Wheeler, of the University of South Carolina, is the institute's chairman.

A number of associated conferences will be held during the week of the main conference, including those of the state department of public welfare, South Carolina Mental Hygiene society, South Carolina chapter of the American Association of Social Workers, South Carolina Commission on Child Health and Protection, South Carolina committee of the Southern interracial commission, State Tuberculosis association, division of crippled children of the state board of health, school of social work of the University of South Carolina, Family Welfare Society of Columbia, Travelers Aid Society of Columbia, Rural Ministers, Youth conference, Girl Scouts, Eye Health conference and the Young Women's Christian association.

In addition to Mr. Grice, officers of the main conference are:

Dr. A. T. Jamison, Connie Maxwell orphanage, honorary president; Mrs. B. W. Aiken, Spartanburg, vice president; Sam M. Smith, Greenwood, treasurer; Dr. G. Croft Williams, University of South Carolina; Miss Kate Bullock, Greenwood, and George W. Collier, of the state industrial school, executive committeemen.

District directors are the Rev. J. E. Stockman, of Greenville; Miss Ina Lamar, of Ridgeland; Marion A. Wright, of Conway, and John W. Crews, of Columbia.

Miss Adele Minahan, of Columbia, is executive secretary and is arranging details of the conference.

## America's Income And Its Outgo

Social Conditions

The average American family has an income of less than $750 a year, according to a late report of the National Resources Committee. Almost one-half of America's families last year had incomes of less than $1,000, while only 7 per cent of our families earned more than $2,500!

Now just what is wrong with this picture? Certainly $750 a year is low for an average family in a nation that prides itself—or used to—on maintaining a "high standard of living." Is it will that old economic ghost, distribution, that is to be blamed?

Well, a mere 7 per cent of our population has an income of more than $2,500 a year. So even if those in the higher income brackets were forced to "share" with those whose income now is much less, the problem would still be unsolved.

Distribution, of course, still is a problem. But it must be remembered that America today is producing not more than $1,500 for each of its families. Certainly America is capable of producing more than that!

America's wealth can be increased only by production, by the fruits of labor and capital on farms, in factories and wherever actual wealth or its counterparts can be produced.

# Cost Of Home Operation Rises With Income, U. S. Survey Shows

## Expenses Higher In Southeast Than Northwest; Special Study Made Of 475 Race Families

HOUSEHOLD operation costs are higher in small southeastern cities than in similar cities in other parts of the United States, on the basis of a study just completed by the Bureau of Home Economics. The data cover a 12-month period in 1935-36.

In each income bracket from $250 to $5,000, the 1,106 white nonrelief families whose expenditures were analyzed in four southeastern cities—Albany and Griffin, Georgia; Gastonia, North Carolina; and Sumter, South Carolina—averaged spending more for household operation than did, for example, 1,488 families in four northwestern cities similarly studied—Astoria, Eugene, and Klamath Falls, Oregon, and Olympia, Washington.

**Here's how the household operation costs went up in the Georgia and Carolina cities as income rose from $250-$499 to $4,000-$4,999: $67, $101, $131, $168, $190, $224, $260, $285, $326, $378, $471, $505, $684. For similar income groups, the household operation expenses in the Washington and Oregon cities ran: $61, $94, $100, $107, $122, $148, $159, $177, $198, $214, $270, $356, $432.**

Included in "household operation" were fuel, light and refrigeration; paid household help; laundry supplies and laundry sent out; telephone; postage, stationery, and pencils; express, drayage, and moving of household goods; water rent; and such incidental items as paper napkins and towels, cut flowers, lawn seeds and plants.

In all but one of the income brackets ($2,250-$2,499), the northwestern families averaged spending more on automobiles than the southeastern.

### FOOD LARGEST ITEM FACING BREAD WINNERS

The auto outlay in the southeastern cities ranged from an average of $10 per family per year in the lowest income bracket to $342 in the highest; in the northwestern cities from an average of $40 per family per year in one of the lower brackets to $505 in the $4,000-$4,999 bracket.

Food, biggest item facing the man or woman who has to make the family living, showed an average expense ranging from $218 per family per year at the lowest income level to $828 at the highest, in the southeast cities. Clothes, found to be a consistently sizeable item in all the studies of southeastern families—city, village, and farm—ranged from an average of $34 per family per year at the lowest income level to $437 at the highest. The southeastern families had higher average expenditures for clothes than for cars; the northwestern, higher expenditures for cars than for clothes.

For housing, which included all expense during the year on all homes occupied by the family (vacation homes as well as the year-around dwelling) and lodging of family members while away from home, the Georgia and Carolina families spent an average of $70 at the lowest income level and $394 at the highest.

On furnishings and equipment—items such as refrigerators, washing machines, pots, pans, mops, washtubs, glass, china, silver, floor coverings, bedding, curtains, furniture repairs—the outlay ranged from an average of $16 per family per year in the lowest income bracket to $184 at the highest.

Medical care expenditure in these southeastern cities went up as the income level rose, and ranged from an average of $17 per family yearly at the lowest income level to $320 at the highest.

For the services of the barber, the beauty shop, and toilet preparations, the families spent an average of $11 per family per year at the lowest income level and $79 at the highest.

On recreation, which include paid admissions, fees and supplies for games and sports, radios and musical instruments, toys and pets and dues to social organizations, the families spent from an average of $5 each per year at the lowest income level to $217 at the highest.

### FAMILY EXPENSE BOOK SHOWS VARIOUS NEEDS

**The remaining columns of the family expense book, when average for the various income classes, showed the following ranges from low to high income levels. Tobacco, from an average of $13 per family to $53; reading, from $1 to $31; education, from $2 to $82; gifts and community welfare, from $7 to $220; travel other than by car, from $2 to $8; other items, from $3 to $51.**

At each income level, averages were based on all families, whether or not they spent any money on the item indicated. For instance, a few families that had no medical care whatever during the year were included in computing the medical care averages.

The 138 families whose incomes fell in the class $1,750-$1,999 (the first income class in which the average income exceeded the average outlay) spent their money as follows: An average of $1,760 spent, of which $513 went to food; $189 to clothing, $220 to housing; $260 to household operation; $85 to furnishings and equipment; $170 to automobiles; $5 to other travel and transportation; $41 to personal care; $81 to medical care; $54 to recreation; $88 to tobacco; $17 to reading; $11 to education; $67 to gifts and community welfare; and $9 to other items.

### SPECIAL NEGRO STUDY IN SAME CITIES

**In these same four Georgia and Carolina cities a similar family expenditure study was made of 475 nonrelief Negro families, whose yearly incomes fell into eight brackets starting at zero and ranging to $2,000 a year.**

The range of Negro family expenditures, from low to high income levels, ran as follows: Food, from an average of $93 per family yearly to $450; clothing, from $17 to $272; housing, from $56 to $215; household operation, from $32 to $193; furnishings and equipment, from $4 to $74; automobile, from $1 to $348; other travel, from less than fifty cents to $28; medical care, from $7 to $142; personal care, from $5 to $39; recreation, from $1 to $29; tobacco, from $5 to $51; reading from $1 to $20; education from $1 to $71; gifts and community welfare, from $4 to $93; and other items from less than fifty cents to $31.

**Only families having both husband and wife, born in this country, were included in this Study of Consumer Purchases, a WPA project in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor, the National Resources Committee, and the Central Statistical Board.**

# Texas Coordinated Institute Is Boom To Farm Families

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas.—(ANP)—Holding high rank among the farmers of the state as a valuable aid in solving some of the multiple problems of rural families is the Coordinated Program—a cooperative arrangement whereby farm production is increased, living conditions improved and the general health of farm families raised to a higher level.

Broadly speaking, the Coordinated Program operates in this wise: the vocational teacher works with the boys; the Jeannes supervisor with the teacher; the adult teacher with the adults; the home demonstrator with the women; the county agent with the men, and all the various agencies work with all the family toward obtaining results along a common line.

Objectives of the coordinated program in Texas: screen and white-wash houses; produce at every home a good, all-year vegetable garden, consisting of at least 25 vegetables; plant and care for a minimum of five family orchards to become demonstrators in the community; every family produce a garden or truck crop to completely care for the family's needs for the year; every family construct a community hot-bed at the school; establish and maintain a community nursery at the school; every family cooperate in building a house in which to operate a cooperative cannery and blacksmith shop.

Each family make a definite income by getting started with chickens; each family cut and haul wood for heating purposes; each group of five families cut about two cords of wood to use at the school and church; each family secure through cooperative meeting reading material—"The Progressive Farmer" and "The American Poultry Journal"; each family make or recondition one good mattress to replace straw mattress; take at least one Sunday for the program of the church; all families cooperate in planting peas and other legumes to improve the soil and food supply of all families cooperate in making laundry soap and lye-hominy to satisfy the needs of the family.

The following gives an interesting picture of the average Negro far family in East Texas:

'The average family as derived from a study of 2,013 family surveys was found to live in a rented, three-room, unpainted, unscreened, and unlandscaped house. It suffers thirty days of confining illness and consults the doctor once a year. It has a spring and summer garden of greens, beans, onions, Okra and tomatoes. It produces seven-tenths of a gallon of milk daily which is only about a pint per member. It has an orchard composed of one-fifth of a grapevine, one-fifth of a fig bush, three-tenths of a pecan tree, a pear tree, and about three peach trees of different ages, sizes and conditions.

"It keeps a farm menagerie composed of thirteen mongrel hens, two scrub cattle, two piney-woods rooster hogs, a dog and a cat. It does not attempt to have, or make an improved pasture for its menagerie of scrubs. It has a yearly income of ten dollars and seventeen cents from the sale of vegetables, fruits, nuts, berries, poultry, eggs, meat, lard, butter, milk and hogs. It has for recreation and education one copy of a daily newspaper each week, a farm journal every four months, one copy of a magazine of some sort every year, and a total of seven family-owned books in a life-time.

"It has no hobbies of any sort, but does hunt and fish a little. It does not cooperate with its neighbors to achieve any advantages which individually it cannot have. What is still worse, it does not know of any advantages which could come to it by cooperation."

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938 The Family

# Family Ties Discussed By N. Carolina Social Workers

## Conference Is Held At Saint Augustine College

## Many Leaders Are Speakers At Institute

**Special to Journal and Guide**

RALEIGH, N. C.— Taking as their theme, "Family Strengths as they relate to available social resources," several hundred social workers from all over the state gathered here last week for the 13th annual Public Welfare Institute for Negroes.

The three day meeting was held at St. Augustine College with William R. Johnson, consultant and field agent in Negro Work in the state, as supervisor.

Principal speakers were Lt. Lawrence O. Oxley of the U. S. Dept. of Labor; Mrs. Lavina Keys of the Social Security Board, Washington; Miss Lilly E. Mitchell, of the Child Welfare Divsion; Miss Ethel Speas, of the Division of Institutions and Corrections; Miss Ruth L. Stevenson, case worker of the Morrison Training School;

**MANY SPEAK**

Nathan H. Yelton, director of Division of Public Assistance; Dr. Roma S. Cheek, of the State Commission for the Blind; Mrs. Jeannette Mills, Franklin county Department of Public Welfare; Dr. Walter A. Cutter, executive secretary, Raleigh Community Chest; Wiley A. Hill, executive secretary, Richmond Urban League; L. G. Blackwell, assistant state supervisor, Recreation Work for Negroes, WPA; George Lawrence, Division of Public Welfare and Social Work, University of North Carolina.

Dr. R. M. Brown, University of North Carolina; O. E. Davis of High Point; Mrs. Marion Wilson, Winston-Salem probation officer; the Rev. L. L. Boyd, Morrison Training School; T. K. Borden, superintendent Oxford Orphanage and Mrs. W. T. Bost, commissioner State Board of Charities and Public Welfare.

"The family presents a social problem," Bishop Edwin A. Penick of the North Carolina Diocese. told the social workers at the Thursday meeting held at First Baptist Church, "It is a survival of the fittest of the social groups."

**URGES LOVE**

He concluded his address with an admonition to those attending the meeting that "the love of God and love of one's neighbor should be the guiding light of social work and social workers."

Speakers at the closing session Friday included Dr. Walter J. Hughes of the State Board of Health; John W. Mitchell, district agent; and H. L. Trigg, state inspector of Negro high schools.

Music was furnished by the Deep River Singers under the direction of C. R. Frazier and a group of young boys from the Oxford Orphanage.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer
March 21, 1938

## Race and Hunger

One of the most familiar of all the explanations for the backwardness of the South in important aspects of its civilization is the large proportion of Negroes in its population. Negroes undoubtedly are important in the South's crime, poverty, illiteracy, disease, lack of skills, slums, lack of wealth and general backwardness. But an overlooked factor is that pointed by Maxwell S. Stewart in "How We Spend Our Money," which is based upon an investigation made under the direction of the Bureau of Home Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with the National Resources Committee and the Central Statistical Board. Mr. Stewart writes:

Only 13 per cent of the Negro families in the Southeast whose diets were studied obtained a sufficient protein, calcium, phosphorus and iron to provide a margin of safety, and 56 per cent lacked even the minimum requirements of those nutriments.

Negroes like all other people are in large measure the product of insufficient feeding. Indeed, almost as a whole racial group they are undernourished and a section which would not expect the best work from a hungry individual is scarcely intelligent if it expects an inadequately nourished racial group to aid in the advancement of its civilization. If the Negroes possessed all the virtues of the finest racial stocks, they could scarcely fail to become a drag on the social order being the products of the malnutrition which these studies disclosed.

The responsibility for the South's backwardness comes back to the white men who have from the beginning been the masters of its governmental, its economic and its social life. The Negro and the slavery which brought him here undoubtedly placed upon these masters a load of problem under which they may very well have faltered. But the present poverty of the Negro is, nevertheless, their responsibility and the dragging poverty of the Negro is in important degree a white product. Certainly there will be no satisfactory advance for the white South until it finds a way to relieve this black and hungry poverty.

Perhaps, as some white men believe, the Negro is definitely and inescapably inferior. His possibilities to serve the region will not be tested until the white men in it find a willingness and a way to alleviate this poverty which in the end is not only the poverty of the Negro but of the South itself. Hungry Negroes mean a hungry South.

Edgefield, S. C. Advertiser
March 16, 1938

## Families in the U. S. Spend $10 to $16 Yearly on Movies

Washington.—Between 29 and 30 cents of every amusement dollar in American villages goes to the movies, a study made by the Bureau of Home Economics of the Department of Agriculture shows.

The average amount spent per family per year for picture shows was $12 in New England villages; $10 in Central and Atlantic Seaboard villages; $16 in mountain and plains villages; $15 in Pacific Coast villages; $16 for the white families of the southeastern villages, and $3 for Negro families in southwestern villages.

"This family-living study has given illustrative figures to bear out the belief that both the motion picture and automobile have assumed an increasingly important place in American village life," says Dr. Louis Stanley, Chief of the Bureau of Home Economics. "Even in villages too small to have a cinema, the automobile makes accessible the picture shows of the neighboring towns and cities.

The Bureau computed the average American motion picture expenditure from reports made by all of the 9,407 families studied, whether or not they went to the movies.

In the New England villages, 18 per cent of the families spent money for movies; in the central and Atlantic villages, 72 per cent; in the mountain and plains villages, 85 per cent; in the Pacific coast villages, 86 per cent. In the Southeast, 85 per cent of the white families and 38 per cent of the Negro families were represented in the village movie audience during the year.

Columbia, S. C. State
March 22, 1938

**FOOD BOUGHT WITH MONEY IS NOT ALL WE EAT.**

Forty per cent. of the white families and 60 per cent. of the Negro families in the South, according to the public affairs committee of New York, do not spend enough money to provide an inexpensive but adequate diet. But, fortunately, the food a family buys with money is not necessarily all the food that family eats.

The State is acquainted with a number of prosperous farm families that spend very little for food, yet they eat heartily and well. Hundreds in the Dutch Fork do not spend large sums of money for food, but only a man and a mighty man at that can eat of all the dishes placed on a Dutch Fork table, and then top off the regular part of the meal with a slice of "two-story pie" for which Fork cooks are famous.

If the diet of these families should be judged by the foods they buy with money, it might appear deficient; but if it be judged by the foods they buy with money, plus those they buy with their own labor and ingenuity, it may reach and rise above the "adequate" mark. The same thing is true in thousands of farm homes, and of semi-farm homes all over South Carolina and all over the South, and in these homes much if not most of the alleged deficiency is supposed to exist.

A member of The State's staff has had some experience with diet investigators. Several years ago a number of them were busy adding up what poor farmers, white and Negro, do not have on their pantry shelves, and rendering to Washington reports that were most distressing and alarming. Those investigators, many of them, overlooked important sources of food outside the storage pantries. There are rabbits and other edible creatures in the grass, there are fish, shrimp, oysters and crabs in the streams. These are free foods, or almost free, and they are eaten in quantity. But they are not visible foods. Stock-takers who confine

themselves to pantry shelves do not see them.

There are, of course, many families in the South which do not have sufficient food or adequate varieties of food. The State would not deny that, nor would it seek to hide the ugly fact. Ugly facts do not tend to become more pleasing in appearance until they are brought out into the light where they may be dealt with. But The State does insist that exaggerated conclusions are too easily drawn from studies of diet. The death rate in South Carolina is not out of line. It is not greatly out of line in any Southern state. This might be taken to indicate that Southerners, even poor Southerners, eat more than investigators think they do.

Knoxville Tenn. Journal
March 21, 1938

# U. S. Families Are Spenders —Not Savers

## Three Necessities Get Major Portion of Pay Of Average Citizen

NEW YORK, March 20 (AP)—How does the typical American family spend its money?

One dollar out of three, said a survey published today, goes for food.

One dollar out of 10 goes for clothing.

One dollar out of 20—for amusement and recreation.

The average American working class or white collar family does not put aside a cent for a rainy day.

Approximately 75 cents out of every dollar spent by American families goes for the three great necessities — food, clothing and shelter.

The pamphlet, "How We Spend Our Money," by Maxwell S. Stewart, published by the public affairs committee of New York and based on recent investigations by the bureau of labor statistics and a study of consumer purchases conducted as a WPA project, also said that . . .

The typical family has only about 3 per cent of its income left over for the church, community welfare, and gifts or contributions to persons outside the family.

Only 40 cents out of every $100 goes for educational purposes—about $5 to $6 a year.

"Most families spend more for movies than for reading. Judging by such information as is available, the typical American family rarely, if ever, purchases books, though members may borrow them either from a public or circulating library.

"On the lowest income levels, expenditures (for reading) average only about $6 a year, which suggests that the reading matter is limited to a daily paper and that some families do not even have that."

The investigation showed, said the survey, that most families do not spend what money they have to full advantage.

However, a Brookings institution report estimated that even in 1929, 74 per cent of America's families did not have sufficient income to provide "an adequate diet at moderate cost."

The recent studies, Stewart's pamphlet said, indicated that one-third of the families in the Northeast and Far West, and 40 per cent of the white and 60 per cent of the Negro families in the South were not spending enough money for food to provide an "inexpensive but adequate diet."

"Taken as a whole, the families of wage earners and clerical employes spent every cent of their earnings in 1936.

"In some localities, the situation was even worse. New York City families spent an average of $96 more during the year than they received.

Orangeburg, S. C., Times & De[illegible]
September 13, 1938

**Negroes Lower.**

Negro families were sampled extensively to study the marked dissimilarities between the income distribution of racial groups. It was found, for example, that the average incomes of White and Negro families (non-relief) was as follows: Southern rural communities, $1,535 and $566; Southern cities of 2,500 and over, $2,019 and $635; North Central cities of 100,000 and over, $2,016 and $1,227. In the comparison above the average White family income is first and the average Negro family income is the second figure. It will be seen from these figures that the income of non-relief White families was between two and three times that of the Negro families.

# Save This Third

THE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, which was made public recently, shows that one-third of all American families had incomes of less than $780 during 1935-1936. It also showed that less than one per cent of the population received $10,000 or over in annual income. (It did not say that a fraction of this one per cent also controls what the other 99 44/100 per cent got to divvy among themselves).

The most damaging story told by the committee's figures, however, was that concerning the income of the Negroes. In the Southern rural regions the average income of white families was $1,535 a year. The average for colored families in the rural South was only $566 a year. In Southern cities the average income of white families was $2,019 a year; of colored families, $635. In the North Central cities the average income of white families was $2,616; colored families, $1,227.

A simple story is told by these figures: (1) the New Deal has not abolished the concentration and control of the wealth of the nation by a few persons. (2) The colored citizens are still the objects of ruinous job discrimination, which not only keeps them from earning enough to live like human beings but also keeps down the wage level of the whites. (3) One cure for "One-Third Of A Nation's" economic ills is through trade unions.

But even trade unions can't help if white workers continue to fight black ones and keep them out of both unions and jobs. This benighted policy plays directly into the hands of the selfish few who do all they can to encourage conflict between white and black workers for their own selfish gain.

"The Lord helps those who help themselves, "is an ancient saying. If trade unions don't help themselves by organizing workers into a union of men and labor, then one-third of the nation might always be living below the subsistence level. If they do, they have a good chance to help raise the one-third to a higher economic, educational, health, political and culture level. Let labor help itself.

# AVERAGE WHITE INCOME TRIPLE THAT OF NEGRO

**In practically every section of the United States the average income of white families triples that of the Negro.**

**The recent report of the National Resources Committee covering incomes throughout the country shows the discrepancy between the two races.**

**Negroes in Southern rural districts average $480 against $1,100 for the whites. White workers in Southern cities, with populations exceeding 2500, average $1,500 while the Negro earns only $525. In large cities in the North Central States, however, Negroes average $1,095 to the white's $1,720.**

**The Committee feels that the unions in the Northern cities, especially the C. I. O. affiliates, are less apt to discriminate between white and Negro workers in their industry.**

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

The Family

# Third Of Nation's Families Live On Incomes Below $480 Yearly, Report

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16—The National Resources committee reported to President Roosevelt this week that the one-third of the nation he described as ill-housed, ill-clad and ill-fed existed on annual family incomes of less than $471 in 1935-36.

In contrast to this group, the 104-page document cited another group, representing less than one per cent of the population, whose family incomes represented more than 13 per cent of the national income.

The committee said that the lowest third of the population, which comprises the bulk of the Race, is supported by one-tenth of the nation's $59,000,000,000 income.

"The great majority of the nation's consumers are members of families of two or more persons, sharing a common income and living under a common roof," the report said.

The report stressed the marked dissimilarities in the income of blacks and whites. In southern rural communities, it said, the median income of the two groups was $1,100 for whites and $480 for members of the Race. In southern cities whites averagel $1,570; blacks only $525.

The committee submitted another chart indicating that in both urban and rural southern communities the mean income of non-relief white families in 1935-36 was about three times that of non-relief Race families. Its report added:

"The disparity was somewhat less in north central cities of 100,000 and over, but even there the mean income for Negro families was less than half that for white families."

Booneville, Miss. Independent
September 8, 1938

## ONE ON THE NEGRO

Some one in Carroll County sent us this one on the Negro. It seems to have been written to the Commercial Appeal and after being published in that paper others took it up. This has been several years ago. The little pleasantry used which is probably more truth than otherwise is quoted as follows:

"The negro can lie down beneath the scorching noonday sun, and sleep the sleep of the seven sleepers without any ill effects, or he can weather the fiercest winter gale clad only in a pair of cotton overalls and blue jumper. He can wear an overcoat to a Fourth of July celebration, or a pair of linen pants and an alpaca coat to a Christmas tree and be thoroughly comfortable. And strange as it may seem, anybody's clothes will fit him and look nice on him. There is nothing like him under the sun. He sees all things, has implicit faith in everything he sees or hears and stands ready at all times, to step aboard of anything that comes along from a young mule to a flying machine.

"Wireless telegraphy is nothing new to him, he used it for ages. Every negro's mouth is a transmitter, every ear is a receiver. If anything important happens on a plantation one night, every negro for forty miles around will know it by morning. Saturday is his special day by custom and common consent. A negro cannot see you Saturday unless you owe him something, and if you get in his way, he is liable to step on you, sit down on you, or back you up against a brick wall and smother you to death. He does none of these through evil design, but because he can't look out for the other fellow as he is too busy getting his 'rations,' exchanging news, shaking hands with all the men and hugging all the negro women he meets. His standard ration is (for one) 1 peck of meal, 2 pounds of sugar, 1 pound of coffee, 3 pounds of salt meat and 1 gallon black molasses, a week. If he is boarding himself he can live a week on a few soda crackers, a box of sardines, and a nickle's worth of cheese for his stomach, fashioned like the accordion, contracts or expands according to the pressure brought to bear upon it. Surely the negro is fearfully and wonderfully made and his ways are past understanding."

Pensacola, Fla. Journal
September 4, 1938

# Middle Family' of South Had Yearly Income of $905 in '36, Report to Roosevelt Reveals

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—(AP)—The national resources committee reported today the south's "middle family" had an income of $905 during the 12 months ending June 30, 1936.

This figure, lower than that of any other region, was contained in a report to President Roosevelt entitled "Consumer Incomes in the United States: Their Distribution in 1935-36."

The committee explained one half the southern families received more than the $905 and one half less. A less significant figure, it added, was the mean or average income of $1,326.

The median for New England was $1,230; for North Central states $1,260; for Mountain and Plains states $1,040; and for the Pacific region $1,335.

**Half Make Under $1,000**

The southern region for purposes of the study include Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas and District of Columbia.

The report showed 55.3 per cent of southern families had incomes that year of less than $1,000 and only 10.6 per cent received more than $2,500. Those under $250 represented 5.3 per cent of the population, while 17.7 per cent received $250 to $500; 18.3 per cent had $500 to $750; 14 per cent $750 to $1,000 and 10.2 per cent $1,000 to $1,250.

In the upper brackets, 1.2 per cent received $5,000 to $7,500 while only .4 per cent had $7,500 to $10,000 and a like percentage received $10,000 to $25,000. The committee said the number who received more than $25,000 was negligible.

**Fair Better in Cities**

The committee explained it arrived at its figures by a sampling method, using data obtained in Atlanta, Columbia, S. C., Mobile, Ala., Albany, Ga., Gastonia, N. C., Sumter, S. C., and a number of villages and farm units in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and Mississippi.

In southern rural communities, the committee found a $1,100 median income for white families, compared to $480 for negro families. In cities of 2,500 population or more, the median for whites was $1,570 while that for negroes was $525.

"In the rural south," the report added, "more than half of the non-relief negro families had income of less than $500; more than nine-tenths of them had incomes under $1,000. One tenth of the non-relief white families had incomes under $500 and 45 per cent had incomes under $1,000."

The committee pointed out incomes of non-relief whites in southern cities were much higher than in rural communities. In the cities, it said, only six per cent received less than $500 and 26 per cent less than $1,000.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal
September 4, 1938

# $905 Income For South's Middle Class

## Resources Committee Makes Its Report To President

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3 (AP)—The National Resources Committee reported today the South's "middle family" had an income of $905 during the 12 months ended June 30, 1936.

This figure, lower than that of any other region, was contained in a report to President Roosevelt entitled "Consumer Incomes in the United States."

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In Southern rural communities, the committee found a $1,100 median income for white families, compared to $480 for Negro families. In cities of 2,500 population and over, the median for whites was $1,570, while that of Negroes was $525.

"In the rural South," the report added, "more than half of the non-relief Negro families had incomes of less than $500; more than nine-tenths of them had incomes under $1,000. One-tenth of the non-relief white families had incomes under $500 and 45 per cent incomes under $1,000."

The committee pointed out incomes of non-relief whites in Southern cities were much higher than in rural communities. In the cities, it said, only 6 per cent received less than $500 and 26 per cent less than $1,000.

# COMPARES INCOMES OF WHITE-COLORED

By ALFRED BAKER LEWIS

The report just issued by the National Resources Committee on the incomes of families throughout the country in various income groups shows the expected discrepancy between the incomes received by white families and Colored families. The average income of white and Colored families in different sections was as follows:

Southern rural districts, white $1,100; colored, $480; percent colored of white, 43.6 percent.

Southern cities, 2500 inhabitants and over, white $1,570; colored, $525 33 percent colored.

Large cities in the North Central states, white, $1,720; colored $1,095 63.6 percent colored.

These figures reflect the injustice which prejudice inflicts upon the colored group.

The figures are interesting from another angle. The much larger percentage that the earnings of Colored families bear to what white families get in the cities of the North Central states compared with the situation in the South shows the unquestioned advantage that flows to any group from the effective possession of political rights, such as the right to vote.

It is also a fact that unions in the Northern cities, especially the new unions in the C.I.O. are less apt to discriminate between white and Colored workers in their industry. The consequence is that both colored and white workers have benefited from unionism, as the figures on earnings in the North Central states where unionism is relatively strongest, would tend to show, and Colored people benefit more in proportion as the unions help to give a specially high boost for Colored workers.

Sumter, S. C., Herald
October 10, 1938

# Southern Families Have Small Incomes

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"In the rural South," the report added, "more than half of the non-relief Negro families had incomes of less than $500; more than nine-tenths of them had incomes under $1,000, one-tenth of the non-relief white families had incomes under $500 and 45 per cent incomes under $1,000."

The committee pointed out incomes of non-relief white in Southern cities were much higher than in the rural communities. In the cities, it said, only six per cent received less than $500 and 26 per cent less than $1,000.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938. 1 Florida

Pensacola, Fla Journal
January 23, 1938

# NEGRO HOUSING PROJECT PLANS ARE COMPLETED

## Local Authority To Handle $1,000,000 Program Will Be Named Soon

Pensacola city officials are expected to name the housing authority for control of the two proposed slum-clearance projects which are being sponsored by the city planning board sometime during the present week, according to information received yesterday from M. A. Touart, Jr., secretary of the board, who is in Washington, D. C.

S. J. Welch, architect, last week completed a preliminary study of "Dogwood Court," the colored project, which, like the white project, is to cover 16 city blocks with 30 per cent of the space devoted to buildings and 70 per cent to lawns, parks and recreation spots.

Nathan Straus, national administrator, some time ago promised that funds totaling nearly a million dollars would be earmarked by the national housing administration for the Pensacola projects. Touart has been in Washington for a week on the housing proposition, the proposed extension of the federal barge line to Pensacola and other matters pertaining to city planning.

According to the national housing administration plan, Pensacola will have to put up 10 per cent of the cost of the slum-clearance projects in cash, land or services. This amount can be raised by the housing authority through the sale of bonds, or by deeding of city lands to the authority, or by services rendered by city officials. It is understood that the proposition has been worked out so that the city will not have to put up any money.

"Dogwood Court" will include 120 units divided into 50 single 4-room units, 50 duplex apartments of four rooms each and 20 4-apartment apartment buildings. These will be grouped about an administration building and community center. The plan also will include parks and playgrounds and a baseball diamond for the use of colored teams.

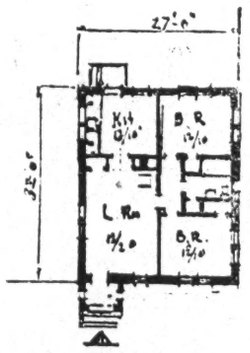
"Azalea Court," which was illustrated in last Sunday's News-Journal, will also consist of 120 units and will be for the exclusive use of white families.

The slum-clearance plan provides that a slum unit be destroyed or eliminated for every unit contained in the projects.

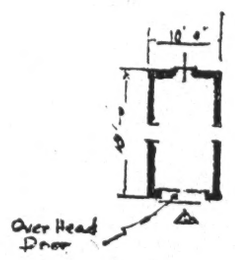
# Preliminary Study Of 'Dogwood Court' For Colored People

HERE is the general plan for "Dogwood Court," slum-clearance project for Pensacola colored folk, showing proposed arrangement of units as presented by S. J. Welch, local architect, in a preliminary study. As will be noted the plan covers an area of 16 city blocks and provides for recreational and social centers. The government regulations provide for 30 per cent coverage of the ground with buildings and 70 per cent for lawns, parks and recreational centers.

The plans of the units are self explanatory and indicate the arrangement of rooms in the single units, duplex apartments and four-apartment units.



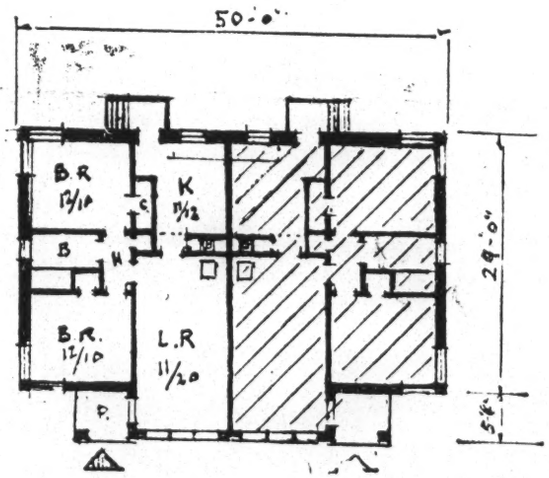

PLAN - A-3



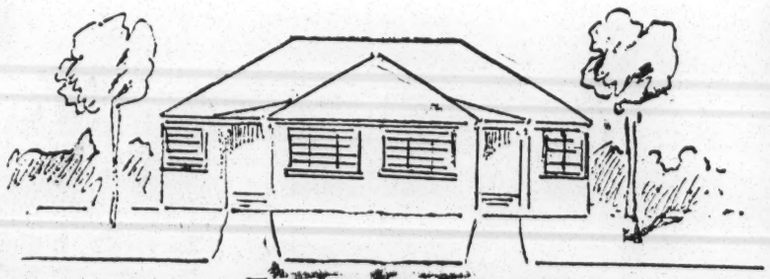

GARAGE PLAN
Can be built Singly or in Batteries.
Can be used for Work Shop or Storage.

FRONT ELEV A-3

FRONT ELEV. GARAGE




PLAN 'B'



FRONT ELEV 'B'

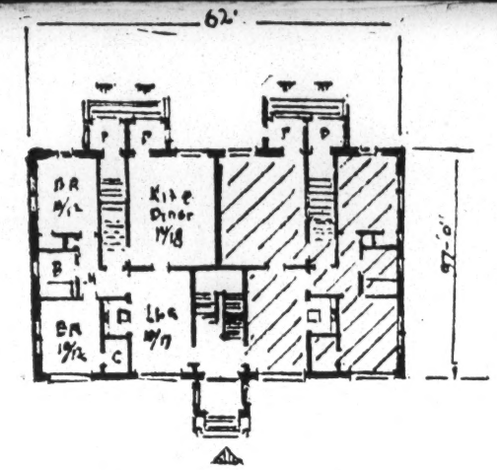
Note: All 'B' Houses are 2 family or Duplex, 4 Room Apartments, Masonry & Frame
50 Required at average Cost of $3,100.00 Each

BASEBALL FIELD

DOGWOOD CIRCLE

PARK

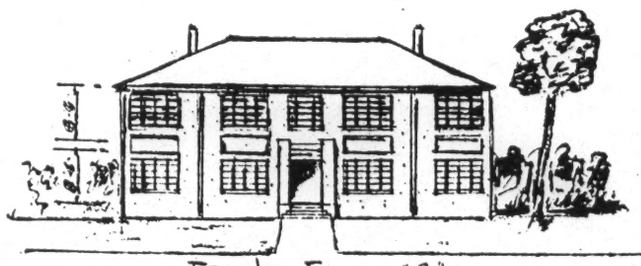
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING




PLAN - 'C'

Typical Floor Plan

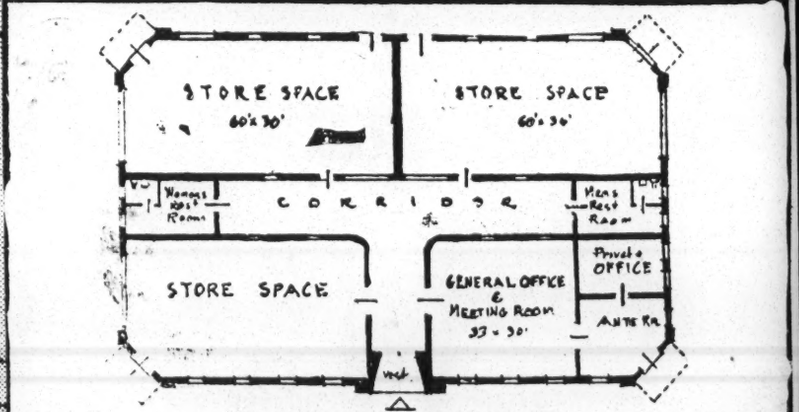
Scale 1/8" = 1'-0"



FRONT ELEV 'C'

Note: All 'C' Buildings are
4 Family Apartments - 4 Rooms each.
Building is of Masonry-Frame w Asbestos Shingle Roof.

20 Required at Areas;
Cost of 5,750.00 Each




FLOOR PLAN

FRONT ELEVATION
ADMINISTRATION BLDG.

I Florida.

Social Conditions, Improvement of-1938

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
January 22, 1938

# PLAN IS WORKED OUT FOR TAMPA SLUM PROJECT

## Expect $1,500,000 Job To Be Started Soon

After an all-day conference with five slum clearance advisers from Washington, Arthur R. Christy, chairman of the Tampa housing authority outlined a set-up yesterday under which work may be started on a $1,500,000 slum clearance project here.

The plan apparently disposed effectively of a requirement that the city put up $150,000 or 10 percent of the cost, which heretofore blocked all prospects for better homes for the city's most underprivileged families.

To help get the big job started, the federal government will permit the local authority to issue up to $150,000 in debentures, which will be tax free and carry interest at four percent.

**Would Run for 15 Years**

These debentures, expected to prove attractive to conservative investment interests, would run for a maximum of 15 years and be paid off from income from the new housing units.

The housing authority was informed that certain investment banks are interested in securities of this nature and will take them readily.

The authority would then issue $1,350,000 in three percent bonds, to be taken by the federal government, and for which no sinking fund would be required during the first 15 years. These bonds would run up to 60 years to be paid off from incomes from housing units to be built.

The federal housing authority also will contribute a certain amount each year to the cost of operating the units, thereby reducing the rent residents must pay to finance the big program.

**Tampans Enthusiastic**

Members of the Tampa authority, given full power under federal and state law to finance, build and operate the slum clearance units, were enthusiastic over prospects.

There did not appear to be reason for any considerable delay, and Christy said that certainly within 90 days Tampa should have its formal application approved and funds made available for construction.

The advisers are William V. Reed, Walter W. Cook, Magnus Thompson, Hubbard Sullivan and Lowry Lindsay, attorney. They came here to assist the local authority prepare its formal application for the $1,500,000 program, for which the government already has set aside $1,350,000. They conferred with the authority and then were taken on a drive through slum areas, piloted by M. J. Mackler, assistant secretary of the board.

The authority has considered one negro project and two for white residents, but Christy said they were concentrating on the negro project shown by a Tampa survey made four years ago to be most necessary.

**Site Not Yet Selected**

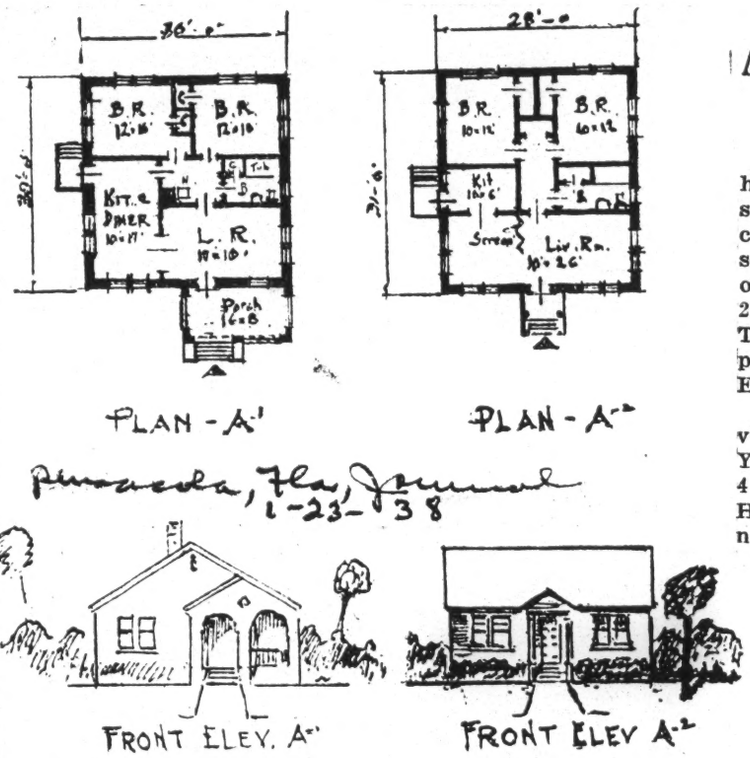
A site not yet has been selected although the Scrub area has been discussed. The housing authority does not necessarily have to build in an area that has been cleared of slums, although that is the usual procedure. An outside tract may be selected, and if this happens to be owned by one person, so much the better.

If the area cleared is selected the land must be bought either by direct purchase or acquired by right of eminent domain. Under recent federal and Florida laws the property needed may be acquired with little delay.

It has been estimated a $1,500,000 housing development in Tampa would accommodate about 400 families, or 2000 persons. For a unit of this size the government would ask up to 20 acres. Not more than 35 percent of the land would be covered with buildings. The rest would be used for roadways, parkways and recreation areas. One or two-story units are considered preferable, if land is readily obtainable. If the tract is not large, the units may be three stories high.

Buildings must be of the most permanent type, designed to be desirable for at least 60 years, the life of the bonds.

The advisers will remain here and in St. Petersburg through Monday. City Attorney McMullen sat in on the conferences as attorney for the authority.




PLAN - A-1 PLAN - A-2

Pensacola, Fla, Journal
1-23-38



FRONT ELEV. A-1 FRONT ELEV A-2

Note ! All "A" Houses are Single Units
Four Rooms with Bath Closets Etc
Masonry & Frame Construction

50 Required at Average Cost of $2,000.00 per Unit

Jacksonville, Fla. Times-Union
March 26, 1938

# Ground Broken At Location of Negro Center

## Impressive Exercises Held at Wilder Park; Mayor Blume Speaks.

With impressive and appropriate ceremonies, ground was broken yesterday afternoon for the negro youth community center building in Wilder Park.

Speeches by Mayor George C. Blume, National Youth Administration officials and executives of the Young Women's Christian Association, featured the ceremonies.

The building is designed to serve as a medium for vocational and recreational activities of the negro youth of Jacksonville. Dr. A. L. Lewis is chairman of the advisory committee.

The center is being made possible through the co-operation of the National Youth Administration and the Young Women's Christian Association.

Music and singing were provided by the Boylan-Haven School choral group and the Davis Street School.

Among the speakers were Mrs. O. O. McCollum, chairman of the Y. W. C. A. inter-racial committee; J. A. Youngblood, State director of the N. Y. A.; Joseph E. Byrnes, director of the Department of Public Recreation; Mrs. W. S. Jones, president of the Y. W. C. A.; E. C. Campbell, a N. Y. A. official; the Rev. C. A. Gibbs, pastor of St. Paul's A. M. E. Church; Edward Rodriquez, State N. Y. A. director of negro activities, and M. B. McClendon, an instructor at Stanton High School and chairman of the Y. W. C. A.'s provincial committee.

Eartha M. M. White, Florida Dwight, M. B. McClendon, W. J. Rutledge and Edward Rodriquez, composed the ground-breaking committee. They were among the most active in obtaining the center project.

Tampa, Fla., Times
March 23, 1938

# *Nursery Schools Open to Public*

Interested Tampans and teachers here for the Florida Eudcation Association convention will be welcomed at WPA Nursery Schools observing open house from 8:30 o'clock tomorrow morning until 2:30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. The schools are operated for underprivileged children under the WPA Education division.

They are located as follows: Grover Cleveland School, Hamilton St.; Ybor School, 11th and Lowe Sts.; 4803 Nebraska Ave., and 3320 Holmes St. The last is the Negro nursery school.

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
October 26, 1938

# TAMPA HOUSING PLAN APPROVED IN WASHINGTON

## Final Drawings To Be Started Soon

Preliminary plans for a $1,700,000 housing project for negroes, to be built in Roberts City, have been approved by the federal housing authority, and M. Leo Elliott, architect, was authorized to start immediately on final plans, M. J. Mackler, executive director, said yesterday on his return from a week in Washington.

Elliott, who accompanied him, will be back later this week. He is still in conference with the staff of architects of the United States housing authority.

Mackler said the federal architects went over the preliminary drawings carefully and made minor changes and suggestions based chiefly on recent experiences with other housing units.

**Playgrounds Commended**

The Tampa authority was commended, Mackler said, for allowing ample space for children's playgrounds. The 40 apartment houses in the project, with apartments for 350 families, will have play areas between each in addition to large areas for the whole community.

The project is to cover nine blocks between Oregon avenue and North Boulevard and between Spruce and Main streets. Seventy-five percent of the site is under option. The purchase of properties under option will be started within 60 days, Arthur R. Christy, chairman of the authority, said.

Approval of the local authority and of the United States authority must be obtained on plans before bids may be asked for actual building.

# Clara White Mission Provides for Thousands in Jacksonville, Fla.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.

A tall, lanky youth in an undersized, store-bought suit and a new leghorn hat, with a red rose in his lapel, sauntered down Ashley Street, stuck his head apologetically in the door of Clara White Mission and handed in a box of fresh peach ice cream.

"A little present for you, Miss Eartha," he said, and was on his way again.

Miss Eartha White, director of the mission, thanked him and put the package beside the many others that had been brought during that Saturday afternoon, and paused to explain:

**His Weekly Thanks**

"That's one of the boys from our home for transients. He brings me a box of ice cream every Saturday when he gets paid. Just his way of expressing his gratitude for the help we gave him when he came to town broke, hungry, and homeless. We put him on his feet and got him a job."

Some of the grateful men, women, and children who find their way back to the mission have been brought in contact with this remarkable woman, who is justly called the angel of mercy of Jacksonville in many ways.

**Has Foundling Home**

Some have been placed in good homes through her foundling home where children are cared for until they are adopted. Some are ex-convicts who are paroled in her care. Some are recuperated patients from her Rest Home for Tuberculosis. Some are mothers whose children are left in her day nursery while they go out to earn a living.

**Some have their parents in her home for the aged. All of these institutions are operated by Miss Eartha White and all of them she has built with her own hands.**

Following in the footsteps of her illustrious mother, the late Clara White, whose mission was long the haven of the poor, Miss White herself has been engaged in social work for the past thirty-five years.

Today Miss White not only conducts her own private charities which she maintains through philanthropies and direct State and county aid, but also administers most of the Federal funds spent in the interest of colored people in Jacksonville and Duval County.

**At the Ashley Street mission there is conducted a sewing room project employing 125 women. a music school project catering to 960 pupils, an art project with 3 workers and 49 pupils and a number of other activities.**

The mission was established by Miss White's mother who died at the age of 76. One of the features of the mission is a daily Bible study class. It is conducted by the Rev. G. S. Stokes and attended by people of all ages and creeds.

Another feature is the boys' drum and bugle corps and girl reserves running into hundreds of both sexes.

**Serves Soup Daily**

The mission serves soup daily to all who are needy and its visiting nurses visit the homes of the sick and serve them until they recover without charge.

At Christmas, dinners are served to orphans, the indigent, and the needy with all of the white and colored churches of Jacksonville contributing to the cause.

Miss White has never married and insists that she has been too busy doing for others to think about it. Although she admits she was engaged once in her teens, but the young man died suddenly and since that time she has preferred to live a single life.

Bradenton, Fla., Herald
May 1, 1938

# WORK ON NEGRO CENTER BUILDING INSPECTED HERE

## Officials Report Progress Being Made In The Construction

The Bradenton Negro Community Center, containing an auditorium and two-story club building, now under construction, recently received the approval of Garth Akridge, regional director, National Youth Administration, and Joe A. Youngblood, state director, at a recent inspection of the project.

This vocational training project is sponsored by the National Youth Administration, the City of Bradenton and the Bradenton Negro Woman's club. Fifteen white boys and eight negro youths, are receiving vocational training in the building trades, such as concrete work, brick masonry, timber work, framing, flooring, roofing, ceiling, painting, salvage work and the art of rock masonry. Related class work is also provided for the boys on the project by the National Youth Administration. It is the purpose of this training to fit these young men for private employment in the building trades, it is said.

The building is composed of two sections, a 70 x 30 foot auditorium attached to a two-story building which will include on the first floor a large club room, training room, and kitchen, and on the second floor an apartment for the caretaker. The entire front porch of the structure will be enclosed by a travertine stone porch. The building is located in the northeast corner of a four acre tri-angular piece of land which will provide space for two tennis courts, a basketball court and a softball diamond.

At present the negro population has no recreation or community facilities, and it is felt by those sponsoring the project that the new building will be a valuable asset to the community. It will provide a center where the young can occupy their leisure time with constructive and worthwhile recreation activities. It will also furnish a center for social and civic activities for the older

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
May 25, 1938

# LOCAL HOUSING DOCUMENT SENT TO WASHINGTON

## Application Is Forwarded to Capital

In process of preparation since the middle of January, the bulky application for a formal government grant to start actual operation of the city's $1,750,000 negro housing and slum clearance project, has gone forward to the U. S. housing authority in Washington.

An official of the local housing authority estimated yesterday that it would be at least 30 days before formal approval of the application can be expected. This will grant the city approximately $27,000, or three per cent, of the $900,000 earmarked by Washington officials to be granted the local authority during the first year of the progress of the project.

The initial grant will cover architect's fees, appraisal and option costs together with local authority overhead up to the time the formal contract is consummated. Future grants will be made on the basis of work progress.

**242 Housing Units**

The project as presented to the Washington officials calls for the construction of 242 one and two-story housing units together with a combination recreation and administration building.

Upon approval of the application by the U. S. authority, actual start of the work will be dependent on the success of the local authority in securing one of the three sites on the south side that have been approved tentatively. The local authority's choice of one of these sites is set forth in the application. The location was not revealed.

Appraisals on the three sites recently completed by Boyd Outman and A. B. Fogarty are also part of the application. In reviewing the application, Washington housing officials will check these appraisals against those made by members of the Washington staff some time ago. Formal designation of one of the three sites will be dependent on this check, it is believed. The application also contains detailed information on building and architectural costs. These likewise will be checked against estimates secured by government men.

**Other Data Supplied**

Preliminary plans and specifications for the housing units prepared by local architects also accompany the application as well as a number of maps showing the location of various utilities on the three tentative sites. Further items covered in the application include a complete census of the city's negro population, valuation of surrounding property and estimates as to future needs. The actual construction of the housing units will be done under a lump sum, competitive bid basis under the type and design of construction finally determined

to a child, without the doctor's prescription, and I want to know that doctor well before I trust him to give that prescription.

The medicine may be harmless, but you do not know a thing about it. It made the child sleep, but you do not know what else it did. It's trying to be awakened by a frightened child night after

Florida

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938.

St. Petersburg, Fla. Times
June 22, 1938

# Action Predicted This Month on City's Negro Housing and Slum Clearance Loan

A loan contract between the local housing authority and the federal authority, covering $900,000 in government funds, probably will be approved by President Roosevelt before the end of this month, according to a dispatch from Washington.

Emil Nordstrom, executive director of the local housing body, said last night he had received no official notice that the president has approved the contract. He added that as soon as he gets notice architects will begin to draw plans for negro dwellings and slum clearance will get under way.

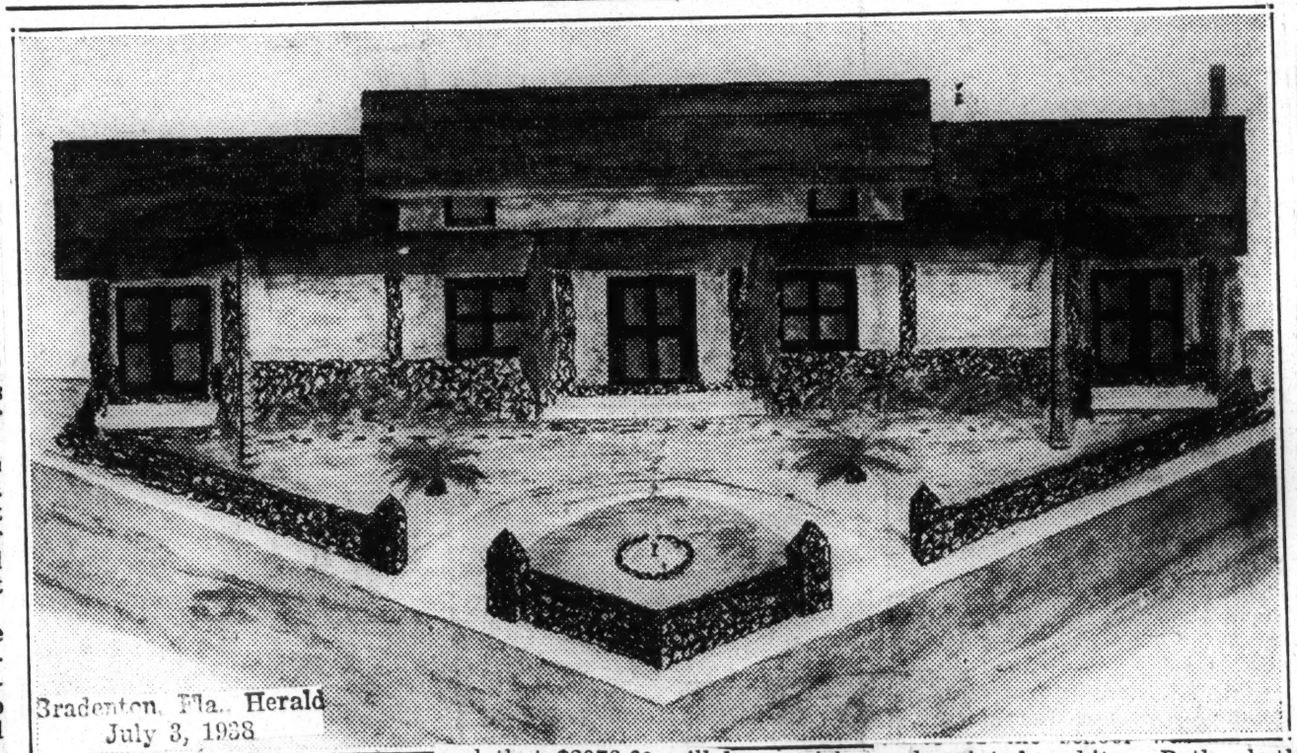
According to the Washington dispatch, indications are that St. Petersburg's contract will be sent to the president with a number of other contracts before the end of June or in the next group that will go over in July.

Funds were earmarked for the local project months ago, but delay in preparing the formal application for the loan held up execution of the contract, federal housing officials said yesterday.

When the president approves the actual loan, the federal housing authority will immediately sign a contract with the city to carry on the project. Under the law, the city must advance $90,000, or 10 per cent of the total construction cost.

The federal loan is repayable in 60 years, with an annual subsidy paid by the government to make up the difference between rents tenants are able to pay and actual rents necessary to maintain and amortize the project.

## *Negro Community Center Here*



Bradenton, Fla. Herald
July 3, 1938

Considerable extension and a marked development in Manatee county's national youth program were reported by L. W. Burton, area supervisor, at the end of the federal government fiscal year. The $12,000 Negro Community Center, (pictured above), rated one of the outstanding projects of the state, is rapidly nearing completion. Demolition of the old Bradenton Country club building, the first step in the project, was begun in November 1937.

The finished building will be of an attractive nature, consisting of a seventy foot assembly hall, a large club room, and a dining room which will be sealed in a natural cypress paneled finish. The natural finish of the building will be furthered by a native rock porch which will enclose the entire front section of the building.

Every step in the construction has been carried out by local youths, who are NYA carpenter students. The city of Bradenton and the Negro Women's club, cosponsors of the project, have contributed a total of $2,150. The NYA has released $850 for materials and $3,684 for labor and supervision to date. It is estimated that $2073.60 will be furnished by the NYA for labor . supervision before the project is finally completed.

**Students Do Work**

On an average of twenty NYA carpenter students a month have been employed on the building. Each student works alternate weeks, laying off two weeks each month. Each is actually engaged in construction work six hours a day. The balance of the day is spent in class work on applied subjects conducted by an instructor furnished by the WPA adult education division. General foreman of the project is T. C. Patterson, Manatee. The local NYA program has included several projects other than the Community Center building.

The Bradenton Kiwanis club secured a three room building and moved it to the Manatee High school grounds for use by the Manatee day nursery school. The NYA minor repairs and construction project completely renovated the building inside and outside. The interior of all rooms was given two coats of paint and properly decorative trim. The exterior of the school was cleaned and painted white. Both bath rooms were repaired and other minor alterations were made.

**Bleachers Are Built**

Bleachers for the Palmetto high school were constructed by another NYA project under the supervision of T. P. Winter, vocational instructor of the high school. The same project is at present installing a water spraying system, planting grass, and doing hedge beautification. Bradenton high school campus grounds and the football field have also been maintained and worked by NYA workers.

The revising and renaming of Palmetto streets was carried on by an NYA clerical project. After the city was replotted a minor construction project constructed, painted, and lettered one hundred and sixty-eight new street markers for the city.

Recreation projects in Palmetto, Manatee and Bradenton have been assisted by NYA workers. The youth center in Palmetto has been conducted quite actively by the NYA with the assistance of the WPA recreation department.

Twenty NYA stenographic and clerical students have been employed and trained by such public offices as city clerk's office, welfare board, county agent, chamber of commerce, county school system, and historic records survey. These girls have been encouraged to enter business colleges and take subjects applicable to their work. In the majority of the cases they have followed these suggestions. The WPA adult education system is also conducting classes which the students are required to attend.

**Other Accomplishments**

Two NYA assistants have been furnished to the Manatee day nursery school.

NYA workers in Manatee county qualified for the state resident training projects. Sallie Gullett, Palmetto, and Daphne Brack, Bradenton, are at present enrolled in the commercial school of the NYA at Camp Roosevelt. Lola Pope of Manatee, is enrolled in a home making course. Two Manatee county colored boys qualified for the negro vocational training course at Tallahassee.

An announcement will be made in the near future of appointments to the beauty culture NYA school to be held at Camp Roosevelt. The beautician's course will continue over the required one thousand hour period, or approximately six or seven months. Girls who graduate from this course will be eligible to take the state examination for a beautician's certificate. Jewell Perrie, Bradenton, and Lenora Proctor, Palmetto, have made application for this course.

Projects contemplated for the next fiscal year by the NYA are the construction of a youth recreation building in Bradenton. painting of Palmetto high school building, construction of a Palmetto negro school building, installation of a negro maid training course and the installation of an auto mechanics vocational shop.

Miami, Fla. Herald
July 10, 1938

# MIAMI'S SLUM PROBLEMS TOLD

## Report On Conditions In Negro Section Is Made Public

"Drastic action" to remedy slum conditions in Miami's negro section is recommended by the Miami Housing Authority.

Chairman Arthur William Kneibler recently turned over to Mayor Robert R. Williams the report of the five-man board on the investigation launched last October when nine civic organizations adopted resolutions calling attention to "unsafe, insanitary and demoralizing conditions in the negro section."

Overcrowded living quarters create the chief problem, the board found.

"Such congestion," the report said, "is sure to produce insanitary conditions, develops immediately a fire hazard, a disease hazard and contributes very largely to juvenile delinquency, criminality and immorality, and on account of these conditions it is necessary that some drastic action be taken before disease, fire or some other uncontrollable calamity occurs."

The board based its report and recommendations on two public hearings, at which specific complaints were presented, and on a series of conferences with heads of municipal departments who gave the housing authority data in their possession on the negro section.

**Recommendations Made**

The 19-page report summarizes this evidence and concludes with a series of recommendations for action:

1—Ordinance with "teeth" to prevent a dozen or more negroes from crowding into quarters that should house four.

2—Improvement of the water supply.

3—Survey of the sewer system to eliminate all septic tanks and connect all sanitary fixtures to city sewers.

4—Regular and frequent trash collections.

5—Paving of streets, which, "outside of a few principal thoroughfares, are in a deplorable condition."

6—Inclusion of the negro section within the fire limits and requirements that present and future building conform with the fire code.

Commenting in this point the housing board said:

"The buildings in this section being mostly made of wood and so thoroughly congested and with wash fires in the alleys, we are sure at some time in the near future to have a serious conflagration in this area, with a possible large loss of life and certainly a great loss of property."

7—Building restrictions limiting future construction in most of the area to one-family houses of fireproof construction with a specified ratio of foundation size to lot size, to prevent crowding.

8—Additional inspectors assigned to the section for the building, plumbing, health, fire and police departments.

9—Condemnation of sub-standard buildings.

10—Frequent fire inspection service and an increase of water pressure to supply fire-fighting apparatus.

11—Additional policemen for the negro section.

**Situation Said Grave**

Before making these recommendations the board stated:

"The evidence secured by the Miami Housing Authority would indicate that a very grave situation prevails in the colored sections of the city of Miami and especially in the large area being west of the Florida East Coast railroad, north of Fifth street, which embraces some 400 acres and which carries a population of approximately 27,000, and while this does not show a very large population per acre, it must be borne in mind that there are large areas in this section set aside for schools, parks, playgrounds, streets and alleys, so that the population of 70 people per acre is not a fair figure. On the other hand, there are sections within this area where congestion is very acute and it is to these particular sections that special attention is called.

"The same conditions existing in the large negro sections also prevail in a lesser degree in the other smaller settlements at Coconut Grove; small settlement between Tenth and Eleventh streets and Seventh avenue, Southwest; the settlement known as Railroad Shops subdivision; Brown subdivision and Liberty City. Little complaint has come to this board from Railroad Shops subdivision and Brown subdivision and Liberty City, but unless the utmost care is taken the same situation could easily prevail at these three points as in the larger negro sections."

**Overcrowding Shown**

As specific instances of overcrowding, the report cited:

"In an area of approximately 208 feet by 500 feet, in what we believe is legally described as the north half of block 3, Jape's subdivision, there appear to be 81 three-room houses of old construction, bounded on the north by a space for stores on Fourteenth street and with a row of newly constructed houses on the east and west ends, or on Fourth and Fifth avenues respectively.

"But far more serious than this are the well known conditions existing between Third and Fourth avenues and Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets. These dwellings are so numerous and so close together as to be thoroughly dangerous from a standpoint of sanitation, crime and fire. . . . These houses are not screened, and anyone with a contagious disease living in the center of this group could hardly refrain from spreading it through the entire section."

The danger of epidemic received comment in the report as quoted from the foreword of a collection of data submitted at one of the public hearings by a committee representing the Miami Woman's club, Triinty Methodist Church Missionary society, Miami Rotary club, Labor Citizenship committee, Miami Lions club, Miami Citivan club and the Riverside Woman's club.

**Epidemic Danger Seen**

The committee told the housing board:

"We wish to point out further that the resolution passed by the various organizations signing this report and the purpose of this report have been to avoid the great danger that we have observed in the spread of disease and crime in our midst.

"Miami is a seaport town, a tourist town and the port of call for airplanes from distant foreign points. Should an epidemic be imported and obtain a foothold in our colored section, we fear the results would be most disastrous for both the white population as well as the colored.

"Our newspapers daily report crimes enacted by negroes and under the slum conditions existing more criminals will be bred and more serious crimes enacted as times goes on."

In analyzing the evidence presented during the investigation, the report quoted testimony on four major points — insanitary conditions, outside toilets, water and overcrowded conditions.

**Defective Water Systems**

Mrs. T. V. Moore, testifying, told of two water tanks, each located in a building which had the appearance of being a residence. She reported that negroes supplied by these private water systems complained of the bad taste of the water.

The report quoted Dr. George N. MacDonell, city health officer, and Herbert L. Schaller, city plumbing inspector, on the fact that 1,200 outdoor toilets have been removed from the negro section during the last two years, with only 9 or 10 remaining in use.

Mrs. Mary A. Leddy, representing the Riverside Woman's club, told of unsafe conditions of the houses in the negro section, citing the following example:

"The house in which my maid lives is deteriorarted and in bad shape. It is supposed to be a four-family house. There is a small place upstairs and downstairs, and water for the family on both sides, with a single sink on the back porch. They have to go outside to throw basins of water out and one colored man went out there to throw a basin of water from the second floor and happened to get against the railing and fell off the porch because the railing was defective and the porch was bad. He is now in a plaster cast with no one to pay the bill."

The report ended with this statement by the housing authority, created a year ago under federal and legislative acts to supervise low-cost housing projects in Miami such as the million-dollar Liberty Square project for negroes:

**New Buildings Needed**

"A great stride in the correction of all of the bad conditions set forth in this report would be by the building of a great many houses that will conform with higher living standards and which will eliminate the causes of the conditions complained of and into which houses the people who live in these slums could move. It looks like we have the answer under the government's United States Housing Authority's activities which, as you know, is co-operating with the Miami Housing Authority in every respect, and, for your information, we are looking forward in the very near future to receive information from Nathan Straus, which will to a great extent definitely solve this problem. As soon as these houses are completed and the slum inmates can move into them, the Miami Housing Authority will swing into action to eliminate or correct all sub-standard houses in this Metropolitan Miami area, and if existing legislation can be improved on to accomplish this end, we will have same enacted by amendment by the Florida legislature in the 1939 session."

**The report was dated May 24, but was made public by Mayor Williams this week.**

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
July 22, 1938

# TAMPA BUILDERS SEEK CONTRACTS FOR SLUM JOB

## Want Project Split Up On Unit Basis

Tampa building and material men sought a conference with the local housing authority yesterday on steps to be taken to award contracts for the $1,693,000 slum clearance project, approved Wednesday by President Roosevelt.

It is one of the biggest building projects ever to be brought to Tampa, they said, so big that it will be difficult for any local contractor to handle it. Therefore an effort will be made to split it up.

At the request of the Tampa Builders' exchange, Arthur R. Christy, chairman of the housing authority, agreed to call a meeting when convenient to discuss the problem.

**Bids on Unit Basis**

"Building and material dealers want to request that bids be asked on a unit basis, which will permit contractors to get in and bid for as many buildings as they can conveniently handle," said W. Harry Rossman, secretary.

"Mr. Christy said he would call a meeting at any time. Exchange members authorized Albert Haworth, president, to make arrangements. We hope to have it in the next few days."

Plans call for a total of 39 apartment buildings, and if bids are asked on each separately the work can be done almost entirely by Tampa contractors, Rossman said. Local contractors will employ local sub-contractors, and will buy material from Tampa dealers.

If bids are asked on the whole project in one lump, he said, the contract may go to a big outside organization, and an outsider may be expected to bring in all key men and perhaps buy much of his material from outside Tampa.

**For 350 Negro Families**

The program as now planned is for apartments for 350 negro families, to be built on a site west of Roberts park and the new negro hospital.

Aside from the action of the builders' exchange, there was no activity in slum clearance headquarters. Christy and several members of his board were out of the city.

Little can be done until the local authority receives a check from the federal authority for $45,720, three percent of the grant, to be used for administration expenses, options, plans and other preliminary expenses. This is expected within the next two weeks.

## $200 Xmas Dinner Served Negro Caddies In Florida

PALM BEACH, Fla.—A full Christmas dinner plus all the trimnings were skeletonized by nearly 100 Negro golf caddies on December 2 as provided by the will of Edward W. Kroger, of Cincinnati, white banker and chain store head, who died last spring.

Dinner for the caddies started five years ago by Kroger. To perpetuate his memory, he provided, before his death, that $200 be spent for a final memorial caddy dinner on the Christmas following his death."

A special provision was made by the banker and store magnate in his will for his personal caddy.

Tallahassee Fla. Democrat
December 20, 1938

## Colored Students To Present Gifts

Colored rural school children of Leon county have turned over to the local Red Cross office homemade gifts to be distributed to colored orphans.

The gifts, most of them cloth dolls, rabbits, cats, dogs, Santa Clauses, and Christmas cards, were made by the students during their regular school work. All equipment was furnished by the students.

The Christmas cards and Santa Clauses were made with raised figures so that blind children will be able to feel them.

Mrs John McIntosh, secretary of the local Red Cross chapter, said several handkerchiefs and a quilt also were presented by the students. The quilt will be turned over to the county welfare association and the handkerchiefs will be distributed to colored war veterans.

Pensacola Fla. Journal
December 14, 1938

## JOB IS CREATED TO INVESTIGATE INDIGENT NEEDS

### County Withdraws Its Plan To Jointly Finance Work With City Council

An appropriation of $900, which was matched by the city for hiring an investigator for the city-county health unit, was withdrawn yesterday by the board of county commissioners, who decided to provide for a full time social investigator to work exclusively in the county.

The action was the upshot of controversy that has been going on for five weeks over the city's failure to appropriate $600 to pay half of the salary for an assistant investigator, said to be necessary by Dr. H. L. Bryans, chairman of the unit's advisory committee.

Chairman John N. Rauscher, in a written report of a committee appointed to seek some means of hiring the assistant with the city health comittee, said it appeared the city had turned cold on the proposition. A motion to withdraw the $900 appropriation, re-appropriate it and add $600 for a full time county investigator, passed three to two, Commissioners Frank Parise and H. A. Brosnahom dissenting.

Dr. Bryans asked both governments to appropriate $600 for the extra help in investigating hospitalization needs among the county's 17,000 indigent persons. The county budget included this item but the city's did not. Rauscher said the city had instead appropriated that amount for a WPA negro recreation project. Some means of straightening out the situation had been sought but Rauscher said he had been unable to get Chairman J. T. Baillies of the city council's health committee to arrange a meeting.

**Christmas Money Comes**

"It would appear," his report said, "that the public health committee of the city council is not exerting much effort in expediting the joint meeting for the consideration of this matter, which we believe should be acted upon. At the time the present city-county health unit was established it was at the instigation of the city that the county joined in the partnership of operation, therefore it would appear to us that the city should be vitally interested in the efficiency of this unit."

Rauscher's report did not say who was contemplated as the investigator, who will draw $125 monthly. Mrs. Guy Green is the present city-county investigator, with a salary of $150 per month. As it remains now, there is only the $900 annual appropriation from the city to pay her salary.

The board released approximately $52,000 for payment of outstanding debts carried over from last year.

Sheriff H. E. Gandy topped the list, receiving $17,336. Others follow: Constable Mallory Williams, $700; County Judge Harvey E. Page, $1,078; Justice of the Peace R. L. Kendrick, $1,200; Justice of the Peace T. L. Hanks, $350; Justice of the Peace J. L. Bryant, $1,150; Justice of the Peace J. S. E. Wilder, $186.94; Clerk J. L. Mayo of court of record, $2,500; Constable Gilbert Ward, $650; Constable W. C. Rigby, $3,000; Constable C. M. Kelson, $3,700.

**Repairs**

Approximately $5,000 went from the road fund to pay repairs to machinery, feeding and care of convicts and similar items, $7,000 from the general fund for repairs to jails, supplies for county institutions, rents and tuberculosis sanatorium, and $6,500 went from the fine and forfeiture fund to pay witness fees and other criminal costs.

On recommendation of County Attorney Richard H. Merritt, the board decided to wait for the outcome of similar suits before entering into an agreement with Harry Wells of Tallahassee to recover funds said to have been lost through misiinterpretation of a 1931 legislative act providing for the distribution of state gasoline tax revenues to counties.

A letter, advising that C. A. Root had been assigned to act as local representative of the PWA on the project covering approaches to the Pensacola-Mobile canal bridge near Gulf Beach, was received by the board.

**Refer Letter**

Members referred to Tax Assessor Wiley McDavid a proposition of L. S. Mayer and Associates of Atlanta that said the firm had discovered "a very large omission of property that is legally liable to taxation in Pensacola."

The Mayer concern proposes to negotiate for the back taxes on a basis of one-third commission on the amount of tax revenue coming from those accounts. A letter said the property is not now and has never been properly reported and is not delinquent, coming under the classification of "omitted." All expenses incurred would come from the Mayer firm's compensation, the proposition states.

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
December 15, 1938

## North Boulevard Homes Is Name of Housing Project

The $1,700,000 negro housing project, on which work is to start soon in Roberts City, has been named North Boulevard Homes, Arthur R. Christy, chairman of the Tampa Housing authority, said yesterday.

The name was chosen, Christy said, because the project will be built on North Boulevard, and this will be the principal thoroughfare leading to it. It will occupy nine blocks between North Boulevard and Oregon avenue, bounded on the south by Main street and on the north by Spruce.

Fred Naumer, land agent for the United States housing authority, arrived yesterday to assist in obtaining options. This work is almost completed, and the authority will start buying property within 30 days, or as soon as another appropriation is made by the federal authority.

Christy announced that Thomas A. Dyer, Tampa attorney, has been employed as attorney for the authority. Dyer has been at work for some time. He is a former chairman of the city election board.

Efforts are being made to have preliminary detailed plans approved before Christmas that work may be started early in the new year, or as soon as the site is obtained.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Florida

Orlando, Fla., Morning Sentinel
September 8, 1938

# SLUM PROJECT CITY PASSES GETS HEARING SLUM PROJECT

## Law Calls for Two Judge Court

First guns in the fight over the city's $500,000 slum clearance project were fired yesterday when Circuit Court Judge Frank Smith made preliminary arrangements for holding a constitutional hearing on charges brought by negro property owners attacking constitutionally of the municipality's improvement program.

Judge Smith informed counsel for the property owners last evening that the question being raised would necessitate holding of a two judge court as defined by law and informed the group including Campbell Thornal, city solicitor, that Judge Millard Smith of Titusville would not be available now due to his vacation period.

Judge Smith on being apprised that the complainants desired to avert delay, made arrangements to hold hearings in the southern part of the State if he is successful in contacting Judge Elwyn Thomas.

**HOLDS COURT DECISION**

Thornal told Judge Smith he did not believe opposing counsel, the firm of Horrell, Horrell and Horrell, did not raise the constitutional question in their bill of complaint but the judge said they would be given the opportunity of stating their arguments.

Thornal also told the court that he was in possession of a copy of the Florida Supreme Court decision on constitutionality of cities engaging in slum clearance projects. He said the validity of municipal negotiations had been upheld by the high court.

Negro property holders contend that if the city enters into the project, it will result in competition with themselves, thus endangering their investments.

Orlando, Fla., Morning Sentinel
September 1, 1938

## Yergey Builds Wall On City Property

Faced with necessity for immediate action, city councilmen yesterday voted to proceed with a $500,000 negro slum clearance project with the understanding the city would not be called upon for actual cash to finance the colored dwelling units.

After hearing a written opinion drafted by City Solicitor Campbell Thornal, which some diagnosed as a veiled warning to commissioners they might be stepping off the deep end as far as financing the project was concerned, commissioners agreed to authorize Mayor Sam Y. Way to sign two resolutions putting the deal into motion.

Asked in a general discussion about finances for the project, Thornal smiled and replied that he knew "nothing about the background of the project," adding that his report was meant to be confined to legalities of the proposed project and not in the form of financial advice.

One resolution called for a guarantee of the city that it would furnish a site for the group of 154 housing units and would service the location with sewer and other similar requirements for sanitation and protection.

**CONDEMN NEGRO HOMES**

The second resolution stipulated that the city would force condemnation of at least 154 present negro dwellings and ascertain that the buildings were either demolished or suitably rehabilitated to make them livable.

Thornal's report, which was largely confined to assurance that the city could act legally in proceeding with the housing project, also stated that litigation from property owners protecting the condemnation proceedings might follow city action.

Commissioner W. Kenneth Miller, who cast the only dissenting vote on a motion to pass the resolutions, claimed he wanted to know more about the financial obligation of the city before he voted in favor of the job.

Mayor Way warned the commission that they must "either vote to proceed with the work this morning, or else forget all about the project."

**ON CITY LAND**

Stone walls, when built on city property will not be tolerated, the city council decided when informed that C. Arthur Yergey, Orlando attorney, was constructing part of a stone wall around his lake Concord dwelling on property owned by the city.

Attention of the council was centered on the stone wall by Commissioner Miller as the controversy had appeared before the council some months ago. At that time Yergey was warned to refrain from building on city property.

"If it is determined that his wall is on our property, I am in favor of sending crew of men and several policemen to the place and tearing down the wall," Mayor Way declared. "He has no right to build on city property."

City Engineer Brown assured the council that part of the five-foot wall was on city land.

Commissioner Wayne Gray advised the group first to ask Yergey to remove the obstruction and then to act later if he declined. The council agreed to adopt that course.

**MAY GET SWITCHBOARD**

The city may acquire a telephone switchboard to aid in calls and checking long distance conversations, the council indicated, after Commissioner Miller pointed out the city was large enough to have a switchboard of its own.

Miller indicated that a definite check should be kept of long distance calls, apparently to guard against expenditure of unnecessary funds.

City Comptroller W. C. Lanier told the group that the city's telephone bill averaged around $150 per month exclusive of long distance calls. He estimated that long distance tolls aggregated around $100 a month.

The city will have a letter written to the United States War Department protesting against the order restricting army planes to army air fields.

Miller said that such an order had been issued and it would cut Orlando out of such spectacles as witnessed here in the Spring when squadrons of giant army bombers were stationed at the municipal field for two weeks.

Council took no action on a proposed paint ordinance and then instructed the city solicitor, Campbell Thornal, to draw off a draft of a city sewer ordinance, prohibiting waste making industries from clogging up the city's sewers.

West Palm Beach, Fla. Post
September 13, 1938

## Negroes Ask Aid From White Friends

An appeal to white friends was made Monday by the Community Center for negroes, which is active at the St. Patrick's parish hall. Donations are sought to carry on the work with needy negro families.

Orlando, Fla., Morning Sentinel
September 2, 1938

# SLUM PROJECT TROUBLE SEEN

## Court Injunction Will Be Asked

Owners of negro property in Orlando, who have repeatedly expressed opposition to the $500,000 slum clearance project approved Wednesday morning by a majority of the Orlando City Council, will probably take legal action to forestall the work, it was learned here yesterday.

Funds are being raised by owners of the property to finance injunction proceedings in Circuit Court in an attempt to stem further action of the Orlando Housing Authority, or city officials themselves.

Meetings have been held recently by some 30 owners of negro properties and voluntary contributions have swelled the fund to a point where attorneys for the group are about ready to act, several property owners indicated yesterday.

**REALTY BOARD STUDY**

Meanwhile, the Orlando Realty Board took up a discussion of the slum clearance program that will furnish quarters for 154 negro families if carried thru to completion.

Members of the realty board were divided in their opinions regarding the housing project, as was the City Council on Wednesday morning when Commissioner Kenneth Miller flatly refused to approve the program "until I know more about how much it will cost the city before we are thru with it," as he told fellow commissioners.

Concensus of the realty board discussion was that apparently the project when completed would not actually benefit a class of negro for which it was intended, as expressed by Robert Tyre, realtor who said he owned no negro property.

**CAN'T PAY RENT**

"The people who move into these units will have to be able to pay the required rent," he said. "Actually we want to benefit the class that live in the property which has been described as fit for condemnation. If they can't pay rent for anything but the low type of homes they now live in, they could not pay the rent required by the housing authority."

It was claimed during the realty board session that the houses condemned and demolished would mean a lowered tax roll, thus meaning that the people probably will be taxed to aid in keeping up the new units which will be tax free.

Harlow G. Fredrick, another realty board member, favored the project, claiming servants of local whites came "from these shacks which many think unfit for pigs to live in and which should be done away with."

The board decided to write to Birmingham and Mobile, where housing units have been in operation some time, and learn how the negro residents take to the program and how well filled the units are with tenants who can pay the rent required to retire the original investment.

Miami, Fla. Herald
November 13, 1938

# *Liberty Square Tenants Given Rent Warning*

Dwellers in Liberty Square, low rent negro housing project, were warned Saturday by Lloyd C. Hooks, assistant United States district attorney, that they must pay their rent promptly or be forced to vacate their quarters.

Hooks issued the warning as a notice was served on Lemon Young of 1439 N. W. Sixty-second street, Liberty Square tenant, that he must pay back rent in three days or eviction proceedings would be started against him.

It is the first time the government has cracked down on delinquent rent-payers since the federal housing project was opened here.

Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union
November 11, 1938

# Lions Will Study Living Conditions Of Negro Residents

A. H. Inman made an appeal to the Lions Club of Jacksonville Beaches, at the regular meeting yesterday in the Woman's Club, to use it's influence to raise the standards of living for the colored people of the communities by improving the living conditions. "The quarters are an eye sore," he said, "and a discredit to the white people to allow such unsanitary surroundings to exist among it's colored race." He said the matter of remedying the situation should be seriously considered by the Lions Club.

Several members of the club spoke of the issue, among them, I. D. Sams, a member of the City Council, who stated that City Manager James Q. Palmer is submitting WPA projects in which the city would sponsor a low cost housing unit. Mr. Sams also said the Duval County Board of Public Instruction had approved a government project for the erection of a four-room school for the colored people.

It was suggested that the City of Jacksonville Beach take up with the landlords of the negro sections the matter of asking that they provide glasses for broken windows and in as much as the city has piped water to Ninth Street which takes in the quarters, that the property owners extend water to the cabins as a means of immediate improvement.

A motion was adopted that the Lions Club make recommendations to the City Planning Board that it give careful consideration to the proposed low cost housing project.

It was decided not to hold a regular meeting on Thursday, November 24, which is Thanksgiving Day, but to transfer the dues for the luncheon to the club's Christmas charity fund.

A committee was appointed by the president, Dr. J. A. Rupert, to collect further contributions from members for a major Christmas charity as follows: E. W. McCormick, chairman, R. A. Weber, Alto Deal, N. Bunting, and Dr. J. A. Patterson.

C. D. Taylor was a new member welcomed into the club.

Visitors were Frank W. Smith of Gainesville, Ga., and Allison Rupert of Washington, D. C.

Light entertainment was provided in the nature of a burlesque with the Rev. B. A. Meginniss, A. H. Inman, Dr. J. A. Rupert, E. W. McCormick, and W. D. Dickinson, taking part. Hosts of the occasion were R. A. Weber and I. R. Wellington.

DeLand, Fla., Sun News
November 21, 1938

# Colored People Help Drive For Red Cross Memberships

The colored section of the West Volusia County Chapter American Red Cross is working hard as an auxiliary to the main campaign under the leadership of Mrs. Louise Campbell. Notices of the campaign have been given in most of the churches. Last evening Mrs. Grace Fearing, executive secretary, spoke to the congregation at the First Baptist Church.

Red Cross workers see many places where funds could be used if they were available. Therefore, it is urgd that very person give to the limit of his ability. The money given will be wisely spent, though conserved carefully, so that it may do the most good. There are only three days left in the campaign.

**Visit Each House**

A large group of colored workers are making a house to house canvass. Any person who is not contacted and can give to this worthy cause is urged to see one of the following workers:

E. K. Ebright, S. L. Gore, J. L. Campbell, James Ginyard, Eddie Williams, Mrs. Alice Montgomery, Mrs. Hattie Montgomery, Mrs. Mattie Monroe, Mrs. Jessie Gladden, Mrs. Grace Griffin, Mrs. Bessie Bryan, Mrs. Minnie Jennings, Mrs. Vina Anderson, Mrs. Mittie Bellamy, Mrs. Lizzie Staten, Mrs. Maude Worthy, Mrs. Estella Green, and Mrs. Pearl Witherspoon.

West Palm Beach, Fla. Post
November 27, 1938

# NEGRO RED CROSS QUOTA IS REACHED

Payment of pledges already received is expected to give the West Palm Beach negro section its quota of 500 Red Cross memberships, Roll Call officials said Saturday.

A total of $380.84 already has been turned in by the negro committee, of which the Rev. Samuel H. Savage, pastor of Payne Chapel, is chairman. Of this amount, $84.38 was contributed by teachers and students of the Industrial High School.

In proportion to population the negro section of West Palm Beach has made the best showing of any part of the county in this year's drive for Red Cross memberships, according to chapter officials.

Roll Call headquarters at the American Legion Home were permanently closed at noon Saturday and future membership fees and contributions will be received at chapter headquarters in the Hotel Royal Worth.

George W. Carr, executive director, said yesterday it will be unable to make a definite statement as to the results of the Roll Call until final reports are received from other sections of the county, as well as a few West Palm Beach workers.

Daytona Beach, Fla. News
November 28, 1938

# TO TALK SLUM CLEARANCE PLAN

## District USHA Supervisor Confers With Merr

R. Stanley Sweeley, district field project supervisor of the USHA, arrived here today and went into conference with Robert A. Merrill, executive secretary of the local authority, over final plans for an application for a $500,000 USHA grant.

With Sweeley were Chandler Yonge of Yonge and Hart, project architects, and J. Graham Miller of the firm's office. They will study plans this week, expecting to complete details sufficiently to allow to allow the application to go in before the week is up.

Contract between the local authority and the city commission has been signed, and the city has agreed in the contract to cooperate in the development of the local project which is designed to clear the city of 120 slum dwellings and to erect 120 modern low rent dwellings in an area of the negro section for rent to negro occupants.

Merrell said today the board was negotiating for a site but had not struck an agreement for purchase yet.

Julius Gresham, member of the local board, today took up a photographer in his airplane to take bird's eye shots of proposed sites.

Daytona Beach, Fla. News
December 2, 1938

# DBHA Picks Site For Unit; To Build Homes For 120 Negro Families

That $500,000 low cost housing development for Daytona Beach will be on Cypress street just opposite the Cypress street negro elementary school.

Robert A. Merrell, executive director, today completed acquisition of an option on four city blocks in that area.

The price will be $8,000. The owner, Ernest W. Tinkham, Providence, R. I., bought the land in 1928 for $15,000 from a man who had paid about $35,000 just prior to that, Merrell said he was told.

The land nestles in the corner of Cypress and Keech streets, just a little east of the Cypress street ball park and negro recreation ground.

It is planned to build 120 living units, all for negros.

The area fronts 750 feet on Keech street, 775 feet on Cypress. It is bounded on the east by Rose street, and the south by Flemming street, which is platted, but not cut through.

The area comprises the north half of an undeveloped region known to negroes and others familiar with the territory as "Pine Island."

There are 72 city lots in the four blocks. The $500,000 development calls for construction of 120 living units.

As there are no slums in this area to clear, the clearing will be done in other sections of the city by eliminating individual houses in sub-standard or unlivable condition.

The option is subject, Merrell said, to approval of the United States housing authority and to actual signing of a contract by the local authority with the USHA.

A WPA project now in operation will pave Cypress street from Ridgewood to the canal. The city will have to extend sewers and lights to the area.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938. Florida.

St. Petersburg, Fla., Times
July 7, 1938

# F. H. A. Cameraman Takes Pictures of Negro Houses Here

A score of photographic shots of sub-standard negro houses in the Methodist Town and Pepper Town areas, together with others taken on the three tentative sites for a proposed negro housing project on the South Side, will be made a part of the City's application for a Federal housing grant.

The pictures were taken Tuesday and yesterday by Richard Oliver, news photographer from the press section of the United States Housing Administration. Oliver left yesterday for Washington.

He was accompanied on his tour of the negro areas by C. W. Abbott, assistant to Emil Nordstrom, Executive Secretary of the Housing Authority.

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
August 28, 1938

# *Slum Rehousing For Slum People To Be Started In Atlanta*

The present administration's war against slums was opened in Atlanta two years ago with completion of the nation's first slum clearance project. The accomplishments and mistakes of that experiment have been watched by social workers as a guide for the new housing clean-up the federal government is now beginning. How does the record stand to date? What have the project's shortcomings been, and what is being done to correct them? John Lear, Associated Press reporter, tells in the following story what he learned there in a study of the problem, and forecasts what is coming next.

By JOHN LEAR

ATLANTA, Aug. 27. — (Associated Press.)—The most advanced attack yet made on the housing problem in the United States is planned in this southern capital.

Atlanta, with the aid of Uncle Sam, is preparing to tear down her slums and rebuild them with decent homes for the people who now live there.

This has not been done before anywhere in the country.

Slums have been razed, but the houses that have gone up in their stead have been too costly for the slum dwellers in the great majority of cases. Higher income families moved into the new buildings, and the slump people moved to other slums.

That has been the chief criticism of the housing pioneering Atlanta already has done with her Techwood homes for whites and her University homes for negroes. Automobiles are parked in the streets of these housing projects while the slum folk live on in squalor.

New dealers who sponsored these projects admit their shortcomings. But they point out that Techwood and University homes were the first government slum clearance attempts in the nation, and say that weaknesses were, therefore, expected. Now they are ready to remedy the weakensses and to try to make Atlanta a model housing city.

**Rents To Be Low**

The "slum rehousing for slum people" probably will get under way within six months, C. F. Palmer, head of the city housing committee, said. He predicts rents in these new homes will go as low as $2.50 per room per month for negroes and $3.50 per room per month for whites. The lowest rental afforded at University homes is $4.36 per room per month, and the lowest at Techwood is $5.52.

The $2.50-$3.50 rent will be low enough to touch all but 2.2 percent of the white population of Atlanta and all but 13.1 percent of the negro population.

This closer approach to the bottom of the economic heap will be possible only through high government subsidy, but many businessmen usually opposed to government spending are in favor of it. Their reason is admittedly selfish. It is this:

Real estate values in the Techwood and University areas have risen since these slums were cleared. As far as six blocks away from the outermost edge of the projects, lots have been sold at prices 150 to 300 percent higher than pre-slum-clearance values.

From a social standpoint, other improvements have appeared since the Atlanta projects were established. To understand them, it is necessary first to understand Atlanta's housing plight.

**Like Octopus**

The business, financial and government center around which the city was built could be compared to an octopus, with tentacles spreading in all directions. Each tentacle was a small creek, draining downward and outward from the center through a winding valley.

In the course of events, the creeks became open sewers, outlets for the wastes of the central area. The land along their banks deteriorated more and more as this condition continued until finally it became the least desirable residential district. By the time the sewer condition was improved, it was too late.

Slums were rising there. They grew toward as well as away from the center of town until today they reach virtually to the steps of the Georgia state capitol.

Along two of these valleys lay the districts which now include Techwood and University homes. In each, there was the anomolous situation of a university devoted to enlightenment overlooking the most unenlightened hovels in the city.

Students of Georgia Tech could look out of the college windows and be close enough to count most of the 197 miserable shacks huddled in the valley below them. That was all they could see on 24 acres of negro and poor white habitation.

**Crime and Disease**

Thirty-one criminals, charged with major offenses, were living there in one 20-day period chosen for a census in 1933.

Nine juvenile delinquents with police records lived there on one day picked by chance.

Twenty-one babies died there before they were a year old in 1931, 1932 and 1933.

Tuberculosis took a toll of 13 there in the same three years.

All this misery in the space of a few blocks.

The area was a chronic problem to the police when the PWA began looking for slums to clear, so Atlanta nominated it for destruction. The 279 families—three of them white—were moved away and their homes were torn down. Removal of one wooden prop was all that was necessary to demolish many of the buildings.

On Aug. 1, 1936, the Techwood homes were **complete and the 604 new** families were moving in from substandard homes elsewhere. They all were white families, and their income level was much higher than the people who had been moved out; but they were not admitted if they earned more than $2379 a year. Their average salary was $21.81 a week. Their rent was $5.52 per room per month for apartments and houses of three, four, five and six rooms.

**Complete Transition**

A complete transition had been made in the neighborhood.

Instead of a tangle of ramshackle shacks amid narrow, twisting alleys, there was an orderly rectangle of trim brick homes on broad, straight streets. Where there had been no sanitation, there now was a bathroom for every family. Unhealthy overcrowding was replaced by life in ample space; only 25 percent of the area was occupied by the buildings.

What had been a wilderness of weeds or no vegetation at all became a garden. Mimosa, white and pink crepe myrtle, Chinese and American elms, and dogwood trees bloomed. Roses and other flowers took root. And under them, acres of new green grass.

Every apartment had cross ventilation and electric service from lighting to cooking. Floors were of asphalt tile, and everything else was of metal and plaster save the wooden doors between the rooms. In the basement were laundry facilities, and on the lawns were scattered 100 benches to replace the traditional southern front porch. Garage space was available at $3 a month. Who needed a doctor could find him in the medical clinic rooms above the neighborhood stores across the street.

Techwood homes was more than a housing project; it was a new community. Under the guidance of Housing Manager K. S. McAllister, the tenants formed their own association to direct their own activities.

**Cooperative Formed**

A cooperative was formed to make food purchases fore economical. Forty members pooled their weekly orders for farm produce, eggs and chickens, and saved $100 in three months.

A kindergarten was organized. Adult education groups studied subjects like cooperatives, social medicine, civil law and government, and book reviews. An athletic association sponsored a sports program. A woodworking shop was set up to give vocational training to children over 6.

It is now only two years since Techwood was occupied, but the results are already clear.

There has not been a single case of juvenile delinquency from the area.

There have been no infant deaths, although the birth rate is at least five a month.

There have been no cases of tuberculosis; two suspected cases were tested and found negative.

Burglaries, larcenies and assaults have been reduced to virtual zero in contrast to the surrounding area, which, still largely slum, has as heavy a concentration of crime as ever.

**Other Effects**

Housing Manager McAllister sees three other effects less obvious to the outsider:

(1) Healthier children, dues to opportunity to play in the project's outdoor playgrounds;

(2) Establishment of higher standards of housing by tenants in their contacts with real estate men (instead of accepting any apartment or house, as they once did, they now ask what conveniences are offered);

(3) A new sense of obligation in comparison to the lack of responsibility engendered by years of tenant farming and sharecropping. (Sharecroppers are notorious in the south for the way they desert their land and their agreements with the landlords when crops fail).

The story of University Homes is much the same as the story of Techwood. There was a university—Atlanta—overlooking a slum in a creek valley. There were dilapidated buildings, 218 of them, in a blighted area of 17½ acres. There was poverty, crime, disease and death.

Like Techwood, University Homes was built by PWA funds. It can house 675 families, does house 645 with a total population of 2500. Unlike Techwood, it is all negro.

**Means More**

Although Techwood means much to Atlanta's whites, University Homes means more to the city's negroes. Its $4.36 per room per month rents (apartments and houses run two, three, four and five rooms) are too high for the poorest classes but low enough to assemble an economically underprivileged community.

"A godsend" is the way the editors of "The Daily World," Atlanta's negro newspaper, described the project.

The results of the project can be measured more concretely in terms of what the negroes who live there have now but did not have before. They have:

A library, whose attendants are trying hard to interest their readers in more serious things than fiction.

A nursery school.

A credit union, the cooperative form of bank, owned and operated by the depositors.

Playgrounds—19 small ones and one big one.

A growing tendency on the part of the adults to stay home and enjoy their books and radios at night instead of visiting pool rooms and glorified lodge meetings.

The results can be measured further in the almost complete disappearance of crime and disease in this once notorious area.

More important to the negro problem in general is the project's value as an example in neighboring negro sections of Atlanta. Far more susceptible to the power of suggestion than their white brethren, nearby negroes have painted their houses and rebuilt their fences. Flower boxes have appeared on front porches where no flowers bloomed before. Community meetings in the project have drawn crowds from outside, and an educational influence is spreading rapidly. The negro is beginning to realize that if his condition is to be improved, he must help.

Together, Techwood and University Homes have served to contradict one theory about housing: That when you give better homes to people of one economic level, the homes they leave are occupied by the next lower strata and thus begins a long series of step-ups which ultimately lift the level of the people at the bottom.

This step-up process did not occur in Atlanta, which is one reason why there is so much sentiment for slum clearance that actually will rehouse slum dwellers.

The contention of these social workers is that housing is just as worthy of high government subsidy as is the mail service or public education.

To answer that contention, the federal housing administration has allotted $9,000,000 to Atlanta to build new homes under slum people for the first time in America.

The $9,000,000 represents 90 percent of the cost of the housing projects, an amount the government will pay off itself with annual subsidies over a period of 60 years. This is 45 percent more than the government's share under the PWA set-up which built Techwood and University Homes which explains why rents can be lower.

Pensacola, Fla. Journal
September 9, 1938

# MOBILE HOUSING PROJECT NEARS FINAL APPROVAL

## President Okehs $1,649,000 Job; City Commission Moves To Accept

MOBILE, Ala., Sept. 8.—Mayor Cecil F. Bates announced today the city commission will adopt resolutions next Tuesday preparing the way for acceptance of a $1,649,000 slum clearance project for Mobile approved in Washington yesterday by President Roosevelt.

The project calls for construction of duplex and single-family houses to serve as residences for 398 families. Three hundred of the units would be for use of negroes and 98 for whites. Announcement of the sites was withheld by the city commission and Mobile housing authority for fear of speculators raising real estate prices. It was understood however, that the negro slum clearance site would be in north Mobile and the white in the southern section of the city.

Mayor Bates said the commission will agree next Tuesday to tear down as many house units as were constructed, one of the provisions for the granting of the project. It will not be necessary that the units to be demolished be all in the same section of the city, he said.

Under the procedure the United States housing authority will take 90 percent of the loan advanced while the remaining 10 per cent would be underwritten by the Mobile housing authority through investment of private capital. The 10 percent loan would be repaid from a prior lien on rental income of the property. The average dwelling unit will rent at approximately $4 a room per month. All units have baths. It is estimated that when work starts it will take about two years to complete the project.

DeLand, Fla., Sun News
September 15, 1938

# AUGUST WELFARE REPORTS FILED

One hundred and eight white families and 35 Negroes received regular and irregular relief pensions totaling $1,472.20 during the month of August, according to the monthly report of the county welfare department read to County Commissioners today.

Other expenditures listed by the department were: Groceries, $803.64; clothing $4.90; medicine $70.79; and miscellaneous $148.87 spent for milk, hospitalization, burials, including $31.60 in cash.

Persons aided by these pensions were 472 white and 184 Negroes.

The report of Mrs. Edwinna G. Reed, welfare worker for the Daytona Beach district, showed $663 in regular and irregular pensions for 69 white cases and 37 Negro.

Expenditure in groceries, medicine and incidentals amounted to $383.01.

Tallahassee, Fla. Democrat
September 15, 1938

# NEGROES SEEK NEW BUILDINGS

## Ask City for Community House, Swimming Pool

**A heavy program of municipal building of recreation facilities for Tallahassee negroes was requested of the city commission by the Leon county emergency advisory council in a letter read at the board's meeting Tuesday.**

A brick-veneered community building with a gymnasium reading rooms and auditorium; a concrete swimming pool with dressing rooms; a soft ball diamond, two tennis courts and a public playground were included in the request.

The letter, signed by E A Pottsdammer and R L Gordon, made no mention of an estimated cost for the program which was proposed to be undertaken as a city-sponsored PWA project.

"After a careful survey of some of the needs of the colored people of Tallahassee, we are writing for your approval of the . . project to be sponsored by the city under the provisions of the public works administration," Pottsdammer's letter said.

The negro group asked that the community building have dimensions of 60 by 90 feet and be equipped for "community programs, public lectures or forums, plays, dances" and that it should contain "modern heating equipment so that it may be used satisfactorily during the winter."

The swimming pool would measure 40 by 90 feet, with a depth of from three to 10 feet. The council asked for 10 showers and 30 dressing rooms.

The commission turned down the request because there is not time to work up such a project before the PWA time limit expires at the end of this month, and because the city does not have available funds for putting up its share of the expenses, City Auditor Ben H Bridges said.

Daytona Beach, Fla. News
September 21, 1938

# *Raps Sanitary Conditions in Negro District*

## *Jack Robinson Suggests To Kiwanians a Federal Project*

There are 1,100 negro houses within the city limits of Daytona Beach not served by sanitary sewers and from many of these homes come cooks and maids to work for the "best families" in the city, Jack L. Robinson told Kiwanians at their meeting today. He said it is costing the city about $7,000 annually to operate a pick-up system in those negro areas.

To correct this condition Robinson advocated a federal project for either installing a sewer system or the installation of individual sanitary receptacles such as those approved by the state board of health.

Following up his health talk Robinson voiced opposition to a proposed city ordinance requiring persons working in food places to have health examinations every 180 days. He said it should be required at least every 30 days, that such persons might contract communicable diseases soon after examination that would develop within nine days to three weeks.

Robinson also advocated federal projects for paving the link of Ridgewood avenue omitted from the state and federal highway project a few years ago and other streets of the city where improvement in paving is needed.

Francis Mills told the club the Daytona Beach housing authority may be able to eliminate the very worst part of the non-sewer section of the city but that it would require a large investment should the city undertake the needed improvement now.

John R. Parkinson, back in the club for the first time since he underwent an operation at Halifax hospital several weeks ago, gave an impromptu address on the United States constitution.

Today's attendance prize contributed by Julius L. Gresham went to Charles S. McIntosh. Next week's prize will be furnished by Harry H Griffin.

Orlando, Fla. Morning Sentinel
December 8, 1938

# DATE NOT SET FOR STARTING ACTUAL WORK

## City Has Yet to Get Necessary Land For Building

The last hurdle was out of the way yesterday for the $548,000 colored housing program when President Roosevelt added his signature of approval to the project, it was announced thru the office of Senator Charles O. Andrews.

The project, to consist of a group of low cost negro dwellings designed to lessen slum conditions in Orlando negro quarters, was definitely assured of allocation of funds yesterday when the President endorsed the program.

Local Housing Authority members said there was no way to determine when actual work on the half-million dollar project would begin, but added that a high official of the government housing authority was expected here next Monday to go over plans with the local group.

**FUNDS BOOSTED**

George Brass, local authority member, said the project had been boosted from an even $500,000 to $548,000. However, the official said it was not certain that the entire amount would be needed for erection of the contemplated units of negro quarters.

"There are many things to be done yet before ground can be broken for the project," Mr. Brass said. "One big item is actual acquisition of land necessary for the project location."

Mr. Brass said the local authority had not yet decided on a site for the program, but it was learned that the men had a number of locations under consideration.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Florida

Daytona Beach, Fla. News
September 25, 1938

# DBHA OFFICIALS STUDY NEGRO HOUSE PROJECT

## Learn Much in Pensacola, Return Ready For Survey Here

George Kellerman, vice chairman of the Daytona Beach housing authority, and Robert Merrill, executive director, returned last night from Pensacola, where they spent Thursday and Friday studying a slum clearance project that was started several months earlier than the project here.

Under consideration for Daytona Beach by the two officials when they returned was a type of housing unit designed for the negro section of Pensacola by Yonge and Hart, architect firm of that city retained also with Harry M. Griffin, local architect, to design the housing here.

Merrill said the type designed for Pensacola consisted of one-story row houses, with from two to five housing units in each row. There are a variety of designs for the various rows. Pensacola received a grant of $500,000 with which it is building 120 units.

Next step here, Merrill said, is to make a survey of the negro section to determine actual needs, the type of unit to be selected while keeping rentals at the present level, and decide upon the size of the project and site for it. Choice of a site, he said, will follow completion of this survey.

The Daytona Beach housing authority will establish headquarters Monday in the city building at 205 Orange avenue with Merrill in charge.

Merrill said he believed the visit to Pensacola saved the local authority two months in developing the project here. He explained that Thomas Johnson, Pensacola director, had greatly clarified procedure forms in developing the project there and that he and Kellerman obtained the benefit of it while there. Yonge and Hart with Johnson, he said, aided them in making a study of the Pensacola project.

Merrill said that the $500,000 allocated for the Daytona Beach project was tentative, that it might be increased or reduced according to needs shown by the survey.

Daytona Beach, Fla. News
September 29, 1938

# SURVEY STARTED OF NEGRO HOMES

## DBHA to Study 1,700 Houses

A dozen workers were to start today or tomorrow making a survey of an estimated 1,700 negro houses for the Daytona Beach Housing authority, Robert L. Merrell, executive secretary of the authority, said today.

The survey will be made in an area bounded on the west by the Halifax Drainage canal, on the east by Segrave avenue, on the north by Madison avenue and on the south by Cherokee street, three streets south of the DeLand road.

Printed survey forms cover a letter sized paper and include 14 general topics. Occupancy, whether owner, tenant or vacant; race; facilities, whether the house includes running water, bath, toilets, lights, heating equipment; whether there is adequate light and air; number of persons in the house, including number of roomers; size of principal and extra families; monthly rent paid; number of months rent is in arrears; cost of heat, light, cooking fuel, ice, water, and furniture by the month; annual income of individuals; condition and frontage of each structure.

About half the survey workers will be white, half negro. It is expected results of this survey will enable the board to determine the exact area where a slum clearance project would serve the best purpose.

Daytona Beach, Fla. News
September 26, 1938

# HOUSING SURVEY AUTHORIZED

A preliminary survey to determine actual housing needs in Daytona Beach negro districts was authorized by the local housing authority today.

The new Daytona Beach housing authority authorized its executive secretary, Robert A. Merrell, to go ahead with plans for the preliminary groundwork today after Merrell and George D. Kellerman, DBHA vice chairman, had reported at a meeting in the mayor's office at city hall on their trip to Pensacola where they investigated the housing plan proposed there.

Merrell said the local survey would get underway this week. A dozen field workers probably will be sent into the negro section to make personal contacts with each negro dwelling to determine the amount of work Daytona Beach needs to correct its housing problem.

Tenants will be asked to fill in questionnaires stating the amount of rent they pay and various other questions. Workers will investigate living conditions, needs of the residents, the number of persons who need rehousing and other essentials necessary as groundwork before actual work can begin.

The questionnaires and data obtained by the workers will be used in tabulating and assembling the project, Merrell said.

The Pensacola project is further advanced than the local one, Merrell and Kellerman reported. Preliminaries already have been started there but no construction is underway yet, Merrell said.

Attending the meeting besides Merrell and Kellerman were Frank Isaac, chairman; Julius Gresham and W. F. Hurley. The office of secretary-treasurer, originally handled by Gresham, was turned over to Merrell.

Daytona Beach, Fla. News
October 4, 1938

**DBHA SURVEY NEAR FINISH**

Daytona Beach housing authority's preliminary survey which a dozen workers are making of about 1,700 negro houses and occupants will be finished soon and probably will be tabulated this week, Robert L. Merrell, executive secretary, said today. The city commission last night voted a loan of $500 to the authority for the survey.

Tampa, Fla. Tribune
October 5, 1938

# HOUSING BOARD GETS $250,000 TO START WORK

## Money To Pay for Preliminary Details

The federal government gave the Tampa Housing authority a $250,000 drawing account in the federal reserve bank at Atlanta yesterday with instructions to go ahead with a $1,700,000 slum clearance project for negroes in Roberts City.

The authority immediately sent a draft for $34,500 to cover preliminary expenses. The money will be sent by the federal reserve to the First Nationl bank of Tampa, which has been made depository here.

"This means that we can go right ahead," said Arthur R. Christy, chairman. "We will be able to take care of preliminary expenses for architectural work, engineering survey, and negotiations for property, which now are about 60 percent completed.

**Make Good Progress**

"I would not want to venture a guess as to when we will be ready to ask for bids, but this should come within three or four months.

"We really are getting along splendidly with options for the land. We find the property owners considerate and cooperative, which helps a lot."

Options are being taken by Charles E. Ball, Jay L. Hearin and J. M. Brega, negotiators for the authority.

Christy said M. J. Mackler, newly-appointed director, would leave soon for Washington to discuss progress with the federal housing board. He will take plans and all data along with him. Preliminary plans, however, already have been approved by the federal board and no trouble is expected.

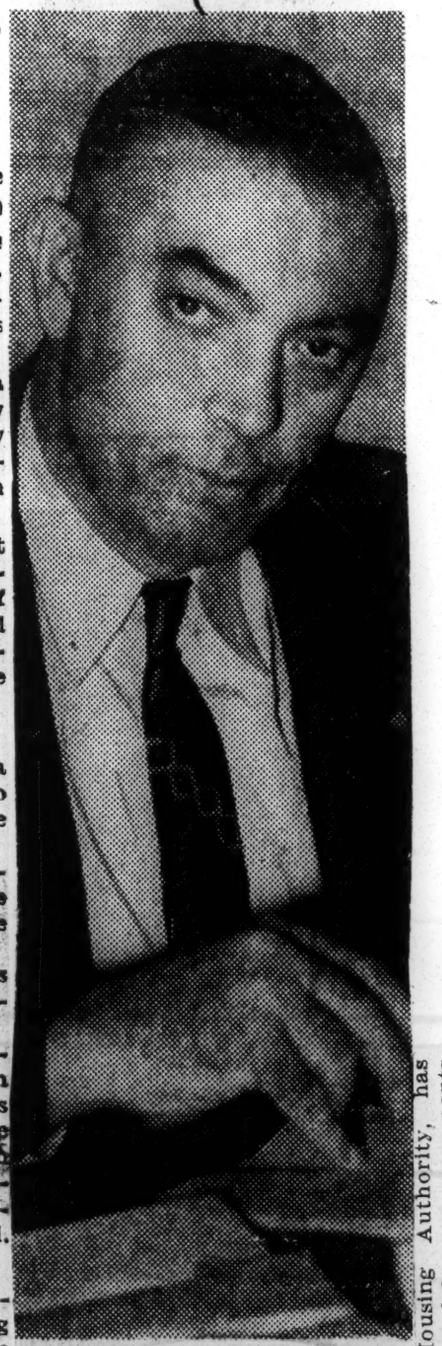
**Labor to Cooperate**

Charles F. Hollopeter, field representative of the United States Housing authority, who has been here for some time conferring with labor leaders, informed the local authority yesterday Tampa labor would cooperate fully.

Hollopeter has obtained resolutions by virtually all labor groups interested that guarantee no wage increase during progress of the work. With this guarantee, he said, contractors will be able to bid without including a "cushion" to take care of possible labor increases after they have put up bonds to insure completion of the job.

Tampa, Fla., Times
October 8, 1938

## *Ends Slum Work*



CHARLES F. HOLLOPETER

Charles F. Hollopeter, field representative of the labor relations division of the United States Housing Authority, has completed labor arrangements here for a $1,700,000 rehousing project for Negroes to be developed in Roberts City. Mr. Hollopeter said labor unions and contractors have guaranteed their cooperation for the project. He was to leave Tampa today.

Jacksonville, Fla. Times-Union
October 13, 1938

## Charities Are Given Permits to Solicit

Several permits to solicit funds for charitable purposes were granted yesterday by the City Charities Solicitation Commission. John P. Ingle, chairman, announced the list.

Florida Southern College was granted a permit to solicit funds from October 14 to October 24 for the proposed E. Stanley Jones Foundation at Lakeland.

The Jacksonville chapter, U. D. C., was given the right to sell tickets until November 29 for a proposed recital.

The Colored Service League was granted a permit to sell tickets to a dance for child welfare work, with the time period between October 15 and November 18.

Disabled Veterans of the World War were given permission to sell forget-me-nots on October 22 for rehabilitation work among disabled veterans.

The Needlework Guild was permitted to solicit clothing for underprivileged children from October 1 to November 5.

St. Paul's Guild was given a permit to conduct a bazaar between October 1 and November 17.

A committee to aid Spanish Democracy was given permission to raise funds for hospitals in Spain between the dates of October 1 and January 1.

Quincy, Fla., Times
October 13, 1938

## MAY ESTABLISH NEGRO RECREATIONAL CENTER

Application for a $5,000 grant for the purpose of establishing an educational and recreational center for negroes will probably be made in the near future.

Jenkins Carter, aged negro farmer living in the Cross Roads section south of Quincy, has deeded an acre of land to the county board of public instruction as a site for the center and negro citizens are being solicited for $500 to supplement the anticipated federal grant. Contributions are also being made by some of the white citizens.

The purpose is to provide recreational and home demonstration facilities for the colored population on the theory that it will tend to reduce crime and be beneficial to the negroes physically, spiritually and mentally.

Tampa, Fla., Times
October 4, 1938

# Aim of Slum Project Here to Reach Families of $600 Annual Income

Provision of adequate housing for Negro families with incomes as low as $600 a year is the aim of the $1,700,000 rehousing project to be developed in Tampa, Charles F. Hollopeter, field representative of the United States Housing Authority, said here today.

"If we can reach families with a year," he said, "we will have done something that has never been done before, something that private capital has not found profitable to do."

He declared that families in the $600-$1000 income bracket were "reached" in a slum clearance and housing project for Negroes developed in Jacksonville.

"Here," he said, "we hope to reach the same rent level as in Jacksonville."

An apartment containing three rooms and bath is rented for $2.90 to $3.20 a week in Jacksonville, he said. Each four and five-room unit is on the same basis, with a maximum rent of $4.50 a week for a five-room unit, he added.

The rent charge includes mechanical refrigeration and electricity. Heaters and stoves also are provided in each apartment, but fuel for them must be supplied by the tenant himself.

In Jacksonville, Mr. Hollopeter said, the project serves as an employment agency. Tenants of project apartments, he declared, are given special instruction in their particular trade; consequently they become more proficient in their business and their services are more in demand. This, he added, has proved successful particularly among Negro housemaids.

The Washington representative said the low level to which project rents can be brought in the Tampa housing undertaking will depend entirely on the cost of erecting the apartments. The lower the cost, the lower the rents will be, he said.

A factor which Mr. Hollopeter said would contribute considerably to a low construction cost is assurance given by Tampa trade unions that whatever wage scales are established at the start of the project shall continue until the project is completed.

"That guarantee from labor," he said, "means that it will not be necessary for contractors bidding on the work to provide a 'cushion' of five or seven percent to meet possible fluctuations in wages for their workers.

"It will allow the contractors to bid much lower than otherwise and enable the local Authority to establish rents to meet the lowest income group possible."

Tampa, Fla., Times
October 27, 1938

## Two More Tampa Projects Considered

The United States Housing Authority has under consideration allocating funds for two white slum clearance projects in Tampa to supplement a Negro rehousing program already approved, Maj. M. J. Mackler, executive director of the Tampa Housing Authority, said today on his return from a trip to Washington.

Application for the two white projects was made some time ago after the Negro project had been tentatively approved by Federal authorities.

Major Mackler said the Federal Housing group approved preliminary plans for the $1,700,000 Negro project to be developed in Roberts City. Options have been taken on 75 percent of the land in the project site, he said.

Daytona Beach, Fla. News
October 27, 1938

# PLANS FOR 120 HOUSING UNITS ARE ORDERED

## Action Taken After Confab of USHA Men And City Board

## PROVIDES 485 ROOMS

There are 120 slum-dwelling families in Daytona Beach who are able to pay sufficient rent to enable them to live in the proposed new $500,000 slum clearance project here, tabulation of a recent survey showed today.

Consequently the housing authority today instructed its three architects—Hart, Yonge, and Griffin—to start on plans for 120 units containing 485 rooms.

After a conference of the housing authority with the city commission, the architects, and three U. S. housing authority workers from Washington, R. Stanley Sweeley, one of the Washington men, declared:

"Your slum conditions here are far worse than in some other cities which have slum clearance projects in progress, and there seems litttle doubt that the project will get ultimate approval in Washington."

Sweeley had told the city board that a loan of $2,000 more would see the project through to the contract and allotment stage, whereupon all or a major portion of the money would be paid back. He said the risk is remote that the project would be disapproved, and the money not recoverable by the city.

There is to be another conference next week of the city and housing officials at which time a U. S. H. A. legal representative will go over the things that will be required of the city.

These include assurances of normal city services to the project—sewage disposal, lights, water paved streets to the project border, garbage and trash collection, police and fire protection.

City Commissioners Montgomery and LaTour came out of the meeting shaking their heads over the request for $2,000 loan in addition to $700 already advanced, and saying that the "project looked as though it were going to cost the city more than had been expected."

Cost of sewage and water extensions may be the greatest. The Washington men said there is nothing to prevent the sewage, for instance, being included in a general WPA project. Robert Merrell, executive director, said that two most logical sites located are not extremely far from sewer lines.

The commissioners also declared they were under the impression the city would be asked to bear one-fifth of the cost of the project, but Robert Merrell, executive director, said that was a misunderstanding. He said the city will be asked to bear one-fifth of the annual maintenance cost, but that will be covered in a credit resulting from tax exemption of the new houses. After a 60-year liquidation period, the city will own the houses.

According to an exposition of the workings of the slum clearance work, given to The News-Journal by Sweeley and Rudloph Nedved, project advisors from Washington, the government not only loans the $500,000 cots of the project (when matched by 10 percent raised by sale of bonds), but makes an annual contribution sufficient to pay back the loan. One-fifth of this annual contribution is to be made by the city in terms of tax exemption as provided by state law.

In this way the city eliminates 485 slum rooms and substitutes the same number of rooms on a good living standard at a cost limited to providing essential city services to the project and some tax exemption. Paving and sewer lines within the project area are included in the project. At the expiration of 60 years the buildings theoretically are all paid for, and revert to the city.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, IMPROVEMENT OF - 1938

GENERAL

## THE GREATEST ISSUE

Undoubtedly nothing would please New Dealers more than for Americans to become lined up in two warring camps and to wage war on each other over two such terms as Liberal and Conservative. New Dealers, of course recommend themselves as the loveliest of Liberals, at the same time they insist that all who do not agree with them are Conservatives and they denounce Conservatism as the religion of an alledgedly few "big boys" whose mission in life is to exploit and profiteer at the expense of the American masses.

But definitely, Liberalism Vs. Conservatism is not likely to be the overshadowing issue before the American people this year and in the time leading up to the next Presidential election. New Dealers had better hope that a World War breaks out and that the American people go into it if they have hopes of escaping the certainty of being on the defensive when the people force to the front the issue nearest and dearest to their hearts.

That issue is Corruption at the Ballot Box and Corruption in Government.

The charge is going to be made and the proof is going to be introduced in support of the charge, that under the New Deal this nation has witnessed the most astonishing series of crimes at the ballot box ever witnessed in the history of the United States. There is extant enough samples of how elections have been "put over" to support the contention that, with all of their boast of being the special friends of the masses, New Deal politicians do not trust the masses to vote as they please.

From what investigators have uncovered in Kansas City, Missouri, in Memphis, Tennessee, in Evansville, Indiana, it is logical to conclude that political machines, backed by millions of dollars of relief money, have discovered and are using a definite and sinister plan of controlling elections and have become so efficient in their methods that the head men in these machines boldly forecast before election day comes how their provinces will vote and are able to produce with seemingly uncanny accuracy the majorities they have promised.

It is now plain that, instead of being confined to only a few special provinces, election day corruption is being engaged in on a nation-wide plan. In all places investigated within recent months it is found that the scheme of carrying an election is nothing more complicated than that of producing a bumper registration. It calls for putting thousands of names on the registration books and to make a wholesale use of fictitious names as well as the names of men and women who are dead and buried.

The next step in this form of corruption is to control by one method or another the election officers of both parties so that on election day all dishonest votes are cast and counted. Where matters can be simplified by fixing ballot boxes before election day and giving out the returns from the fixed boxes instead of from the boxes containing the fair and honest election returns, controlled election officers see that it is done.

The people now know that this system of controlling an election is the thing which made the hitherto reliable election forecasts of the Literary Digest go haywire in 1936. The use of the system certainly makes it extremely doubtful that President Roosevelt actually carried all but two states in that election. Most certainly it leaves in the public mind a conviction that Mr. Roosevelt did not get anything like ninety-five per cent of the votes cast in Memphis that year.

The people now know that the courageous uncovering of election frauds such as has been done by Judge Chester K. Hart in Nashville; by two federal judges in Kansas City and by Gov. Gordon Browning in Tennessee and still more recently by an intrepid law and order group in Evansville, Indiana, merely scratches the surface. With a knowledge of the fact that a nationally conceived and nationally controlled Tammany Hall is engaged in vitiating national elections, as well as city and state elections, there is little likelihood that a red herring like Liberalism vs. Conservatism can make the American people turn away from what is their duty in the premises.

## HOUSING—AMERICAN STYLE

"This so-called "public housing program," although it may seem novel in America is quite similar to the work successfully carried out on a large scale for many years in Europe."—Hon. Nathan Straus.

An honest confession, we are told, is good for the soul. How good, therefore must the soul of the Hon. Nathan Straus, Administration of the United States Housing Authority, feel as its possessor unburdens himself of the statement above quoted.

The statement is a classic illustration of how determined New Dealers are to make Americans dissatisfied with their own pattern of living and of their plain intent and purpose to postpone the arrival date of the "more abundant life" as long as Americans continue to hold to the old fashioned idea that liberty is to be preferred to regimentation.

Now it doesn't make any difference how much propaganda is released by the zealots for municipal housing nor how hard and continuously they "push the middle valve down" to toot the tune about the masses in Nashville being ill-housed, the fact remains that there is room for a sharp dissent from the plans these advocates have for remedying the admitted evil.

The millions of dollars Congress voted for housing was in response to the New Deal's discovery of the fact that one-third of the nation is ill-housed. It can be assumed that Congress thought the first money to be spent in taking care of the ill-housed would go to real slum clearance and the people who were in the very worst condition would be the first to receive aid.

That was not done. New Dealers do not mind admitting that they spent the first money in providing better housing for a class of citizens best able to pay the required rent. That was the case in Nashville, and to do this the city gave away all of the tax money and other utility services to the federal government and must necessarily saddle the cost of the subsidy being given the government housing units on the people who do not live in these housing units. In the meantime, Nashville's slums are still doing business at the same old stand.

Why there is need to be cautious about going after more federal money for municipal housing units is because some consideration should be given the great majority of citizens who own their own homes or who are struggling to buy homes. Every tax-free municipal house built is going to put an additional tax burden on the thrifty element of the population which is seeking to be home-owners in the community.

If Nashville leaders have the good common sense they are credited with having they will put more stress on the need of people buying homes and less on getting more rent colonies for people, who given a fair chance, could buy their homes as easily as they could rent quarters in a housing unit.

Nashville leaders could use their influence to get the federal government to be more liberal toward and more concerned about th epeople who want to buy homes than it is about people who prefer to rent. To that end the federal government could do away with all of the "red tape" connected with getting federal money to finance home owning. It could, for instance, here in Nashville, do away with the "red tape" which requires a prospective client for a loan to be living in a particular "zone" in order to get the money. The government could do away with its harsh policy of taking people's homes away from them far more quickly than would a local individual or firm from whom a family was trying to purchase a home.

The government could give aid and encouragement to local capital in its efforts to improve rent houses and to build homes for sale. That might not be the way they do things in Europe, but it has not been proven as yet that the American people, after a hundred and fifty years of life and progress on the American plan have decided that they are all wrong and are now ready to go European.

Finally, let us be aware of the fact that there is no telling what day the masses of Americans will be called upon to fight for the preservation of this country. There is no doubt about the patriotism that home-owners will show in such a crisis. There is much doubt about the amount of patriotism that can be stirred up in the breasts of those whose urge to do and die would come from the love they had for rented quarters in a municipal housing unit.

Nashville's officials should be encouraged to go the full length in giving the city sewers, streets, schools and other necessities. They should be encouraged to keep taxes low so that business and industry can prosper and pay workers higher wages. These things will be of benefit to the whole people and that de-

Be sure to go to the polls next Tuesday, November 8, and cast your vote for the best interests of your state and nation.

# STUDY GROUP NAMED ON HUMAN RELATIONS

## Dr. MacCracken Heads Committee to Improve Conditions

President Henry Noble MacCracken of Vassar College is chairman of a National Advisory Committee of laymen, educators and technical experts to work for better human relations, according to an announcement yesterday by Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, director of the National Conference of Jews and Christians.

James N. Rosenberg and Homer J. Bulkley are co-chairmen. This advisory committee, Dr. Clinchy said, will be organized in the form of groups in specialized fields. The first one will be the Commission on Social Studies and Human Relations, to which the following social scientists have been appointed:

Dr. Shelby M. Harrison, general director of the Russell Sage Foundation; Dr. Herbert A. Miller, professor of the graduate department of social economy and social research, Bryn Mawr College; Dr. Charles A. Beard, historian and author; Dr. F. Stuart Chapin, chairman of the department of sociology, University of Minnesota; the Rev. Frederic Siedenburg, executive dean of the University of Detroit; Professor Paul H. Douglas of the department of economics, University of Chicago; Dr. Kimball Young, professor of sociology, University of Wisconsin; Professor Joseph P. Chamberlain of Columbia University; Dr. Donald Young of the Social Science Research Council; Eduard Lindeman of the New York School of Social Work; Robert P. Lane of the New York Welfare Council; Dr. Sigmund Neumann of the department of government, Wesleyan University; Professor J. S. Burgess of the department of sociology, Temple University, and Dr. Mark A. May, director of the Yale University Institute of Human Relations.

A four-year survey of trends in human relations will be undertaken by the committee.

# TOBACCO ROAD VS. TOBACCO ROAD

A CASUAL JAUNT along the long thoroughfare leading to the local tobacco marts during the past few days, since growers of the cherished plant have been hauling their products to the buyers, discloses the alarming fact that of the hundreds of growers there to rake in thousands upon thousands of dollars from their sales, not a single black face has yet been noted.

Certainly such a situation should offer members of the Negro racial group something demanding his serious thought. Streets and corners about the cities and towns throughout this section are crowded with stalwart men and boys of the Negro racial group who are crying over what they term inability to find employment. Lines about relief centers are made up to a great extent of Negro men and women, waiting in the cold for their turn as they beg for food that their families may eat. Yet, thousands of acres of land lay idle, from which many of these same people could acquire, for tobacco cultivation, and at the proper season, join the long parade of tobacco growers who are receiving healthy checks for their projects. The same government that feeds many of these people through their relief stations are ready and willing to make it possible for them to get control of farm lands and thereby earn their living by producing, not only tobacco, but other products much in demand.

Compare the long line of faces on the tobacco road leading to the mammoth warehouse where the amusing voice of the auctioneer can be heard, to that group of faces seen at "Tobacco Road", the play staged at a local theater several nights ago. Risque terms and audaciously vulgar expressions prevailed in huge proportion. Negroes lured to the "jim-crow" gallery of the white play house by the play's advance reputation for scenes and words that produced a "thrill", packed themselves into that unkempt gallery to the number of more than four hundred. They paid hundreds of dollars into the coffers of the theatre and producers of the play, even in the face of the most serious economic conditions that have ever confronted their racial group. They not only allowed themselves to be jim-crowed and packed into the unkempt and uncomfortable gallery of a house that on a previous occasion had closed its doors to them when a white show appeared there, the promoters of which felt that Negroes should not witness the almost nude exhibitions of its white participants but many of these very same Negroes suffered themselves to be confronted by a vicious, uncouth Negro ex-miner, retained as usher, who brow beat them and offered them insult comparable to that which might be experienced in a Mississippi house. Along this "Tobacco Road", the faces of Negroes could be noted, in proportion far in excess to white faces.

Until Negroes learn to get their faces in the parade along Tobacco Road leading to the warehouse where they might take down some of the good cash from sale of the weed of which many of their racial group are consumers instead of showing up in such great proportion in the "Tobacco Road" staged in jim-crow theaters, the future of the race is hopeless, and the retrogression now being encountered will continue in an effort to pull the racial group to a destructive end.

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# 11 NEGROES ON HOUSING AUTHORITIES

## Participate Actively In Local Low-Cost Programs

6-3-38

WASHINGTON. — Recognition of the needs of the Negro for low-rent housing is clearly indicated by the appointment of 11 Negroes to memebrship on local housing authorities now participating in the government's slum-clearance program, a statement by the office of the consultant on racial relations of the United States Housing authority pointed out this week.

Nathan Straus, administrator of the United States Housing authority, expressed gratification at the appointment of Negro members of local housing agencies as evidence of a desire on the part of municipalities to integrate Negroes into the $500,000,000 nation-wide slum-clearance and low-rent housing program going forward at top speed under the auspices of the USHA.

**Negroes as Officials**

Dr. Theodore Cable, a member of the Indianapolis City Council, has been named vice-president of the State Housing Board of Indiana.

Major Robert A. Byrd, a member of the City Zoning Board of Appeals of Springfield, Ill., has been elected treasurer of the Springfield local housing authority.

When the Newark (N. J.) Housing authority was organized recently, Harold A. Lett, an Urban League executive, was chosen as acting secretary.

Other Negroes now serving on local housing authorities are:

Dr. W. Harry Barnes in Philadelphia.

Richard F. Jones in Pittsburgh.

George B. Murphy, high school principal in Baltimore.

Dr. R. F. Pulley in Toledo.

Mrs. Hattie E. Clark, assistant county supervisor for Negroes, on the Charleston (W. Va.) authority.

Dr. Marcus F. Wheatland in Camden, N. J.

Joseph Bowers, Y. M. C. A. secretary, in Orange, N. J.

J. Everett Harris of the Louisville (Ky.) Municipal Housing Commission.

Government's housing program, the responsibility for initiating and developing housing plans has been delegated to local authorities. It is now up to civic-minded persons in the various communities to see that proper steps are taken to enable cities to benefit from the current program designed to provide decent housing facilities for the neediest section of the population.

"The appointment of Negroes to local housing authorities should be one means of assuring real consideration of the housing needs of the race in those communities."

In Augusta, Dr. Edmund C. Peters, white president of a Negro college in the city has been appointed to the local housing authority.

**Stresses Need**

Dr. Robert C. Weaver, special assistant to Administrator Straus of the United States Housing Authority, called attention of Mr. Straus to the need for activity among Negroes in their respective localities if they are to share adequately in the program of the USHA.

He said:

"The degree and type of participation Negroes may obtain in local housing programs depends largely upon the amount of activity and interest they show in their respective communities.

# Half Of All Southern Families Need Housing

## Report of National Economic Council Makes Startling Disclosure of Conditions

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—The report of the National Economic Council, submitted fortnight ago to President Roosevelt, contains much valuable information on the present economic status of Southerners, white and colored—how they live, what they earn and the general condition of their health.

The report shows that health-protection facilities in the South are limited and that both races suffer from a lack of hospitals and clinics as well as a shortage of trained health workers. The report shows that by the most conservative estimates, 4,000,000 Southern families need rehousing and this appalling number is one-half of all the families in the South.

The report stresses the relationship between poor housing and poor health, declares that the six million people affected annually by malaria, have reduced the industrial output of the south, one third. The report points out:

"In the South, were family incomes are exceptionally low, the sickness and death rates are usually high. . . The low-income belt of the South is a belt of sickness, misery and unnecessary death. The climate cannot be blamed—the South is as healthful as any section for those who have the necessary care, diet and freedom from occupational diseases.

Several years ago the U. S. Public Health Service conducted syphilis-control demonstrations in selected rural areas in the South. These studies revealed a much higher rate of syphilis among Negroes than among whites, but showed further that this higher ratio was not due to physical differences between the races. It was found to be due to the greater poverty and lower living conditions of the Negroes. Similar studies of such diseases have shown that individual health cannot be separated from the health of the community as a whole."

# *Median Income for South Called Lowest in Nation*

## Albany and Griffin Among Georgia Cities Studied in Nation-Wide Survey

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3. (AP)—The national resources committee reported today the South's "middle family" had an income of $905 during the twelve months ended June 30, 1936.

This figure, lower than that of any other region, was contained in a report to President Roosevelt entitled "consumer incomes in the United States: Their distribution in 1935-36."

The committee explained one-half the southern families received more than the $905 median and one-half less. A less significant figure, it added, was the mean or average income of $1,326.

The median for New England was $1,230; for North Central states, $1,260; for mountain and plains states, $1,040; and for the Pacific region, $1,335.

The southern region for purposes of the study included Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas and the District of Columbia.

The report showed 55.3 per cent of southern families had incomes that year of less than $1,000 and only 10.6 per cent received more than $2,500. Those under $250 represented 5.3 per cent of the population, while 17.7 per cent received $250 to $500, 18.3 per cent had $500 to $750, 14 per cent $750 to $1,000, and 10.2 per cent $1,000 to $1,250.

In the upper brackets, 1.2 per cent received $5,000 to $7,500, while only .4 per cent had $7,500 to $10,000 and a similar percentage received $10,000 to $25,000. The committee said the number who received more than $25,000 was negligible.

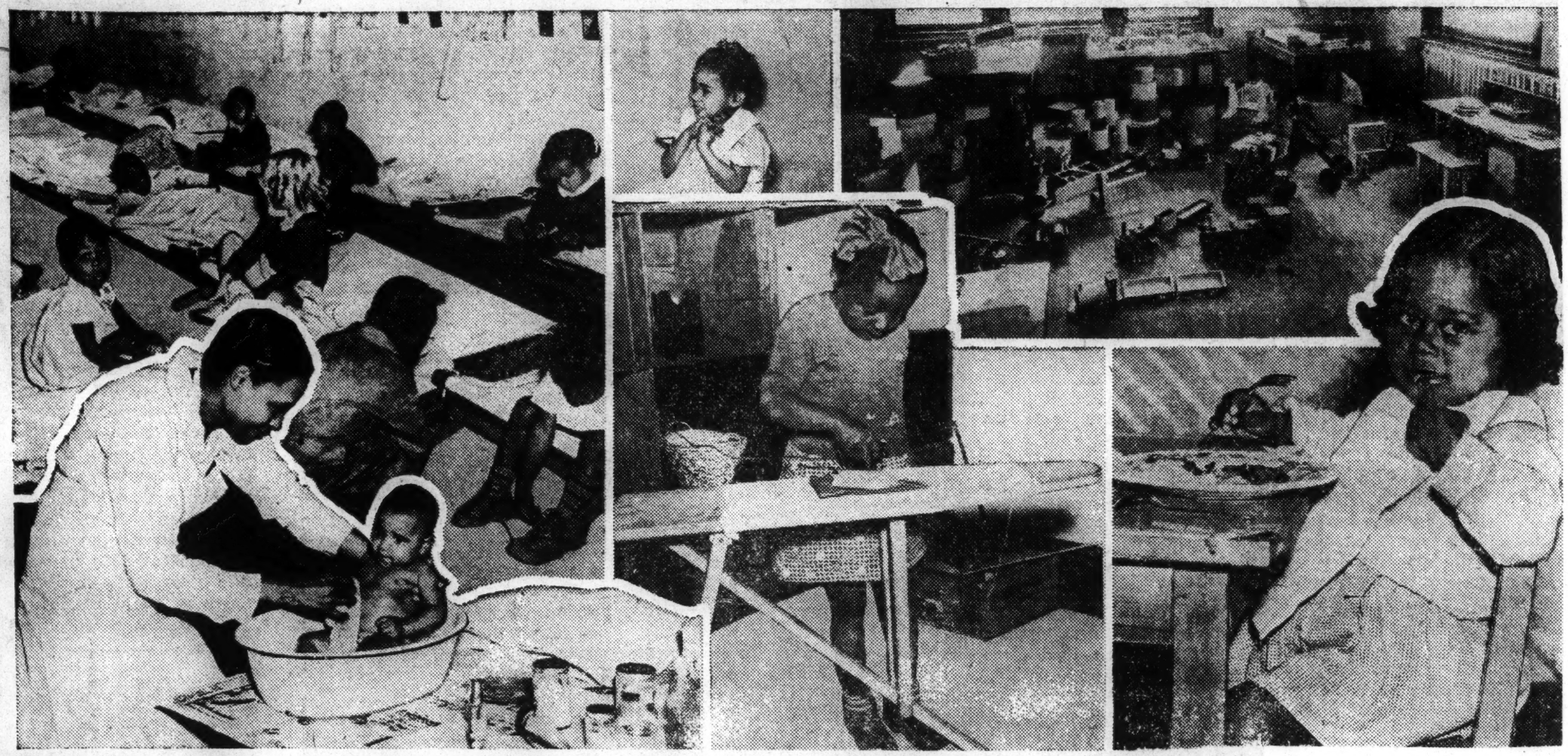
The committee explained it arrived at its figures by a sampling method, using data obtained in Atlanta, Columbia, S. C., Mobile, Ala., Albany, Ga., Griffin, Ga., Gastonia, N. C., Sumter, S. C., and a number of village and farm units in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Mississippi.

In southern rural communities, the committee found a $1,100 median income for white families, compared to $480 for Negro families. In cities of 2,500 population and over, the median for whites was $1,570, while that of Negroes was $525.

"In the rural South," the report added, "more than half of the nonrelief Negro families had incomes of less than $500; more than nine-tenths of them had incomes under $1,000. One-tenth of the nonrelief white families had incomes under $500 and 45 per cent incomes under $1,000."

The committee pointed out incomes of nonrelief whites in southern cities were much higher than in rural communities. In the cities, it said, only six per cent received less than $500 and 26 per cent less than $1,000.

# Program Aids Development Of Youth



...Over 6,000 Negro children of pre-school age are benefiting the training and care given them in more than 100 nursery schools provided in the Education Program of the Work Progress Administration. Not to be confused with day nurseries, these WPA nursery schools are havens for tots coming from underprivileged families. The pictures above show some of these children who share in this Federal-directed project.

Some 700 capable Negro workers are employed in WPA nursery schools. Under their guidance, the children are taught good habits in an environment which best develops their physical, mental, emotional and social relationships. Leaving no stone unturned in seeing that their charges get off on a good start toward useful citizenship, the WPA nursery school teachers get the cooperation of the home in studying the needs of the children. They also see that the parents learn the best methods of caring for and training the tots.

## HIGHEST RACE INCOME IN ATLANTA; N. Y. IS SECOND

WASHINGTON—(C)—The highest annual average Negro income in the United States for 1935-36 was $5,130, listed for Atlanta, Ga., and New York was second, with $4,784, according to the findings in a report as of June 1, by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics on Urban Study of Consumer Purchases. New York tops the list in annual expenditure with $3,936, while Atlanta comes second, spending $3,597 per family in the highest income brackets for Negroes.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

General

# Opportunities in Urban Life Neglected and Overlooked Negroes In United States

## Economic Pattern Distressing

### Richmond and Washington Noted as Ideal Centers in Neatness and Well Kept Homes

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—Negroes are neglecting many opportunities to improve the patterns of living, according to Frazier T. Lane, director of the Civic Improvement department of the Chicago Urban League, who has just returned from a 3,000 mile trip in Indiana, Ohio. West Virginia, North Carolina, Maryalnd, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Washington, D. C.

With very few exceptions the majority of the Negro population is found in very definite areas or ghettoes and the hub of activity centers around theatres, taverns and night clubs, he said. These areas are also characterized by large numbers of substandard and dilapidated dwellings. In those states where it is possible to purchase liquor in taverns or restaurants, Negro neighborhoods are studded with such places and they all seem to do a thriving business accompanied by the monotonous tempo of rowdyism." There is very little difference between the Negro centers in Chicago, Indianapolis, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Detroit except in volume. In those cities where liquor is sold in certain stores, the conduct of the people and the tone of the neighborhood is considerably better.

"Richmond and Washington are two cities which might well be a model for others to follow in regard to neatness and well kept premises, Mr. Lane asserted. These seaboard towns present a beautiful aspect to one observing the amount of dilapidation and disorganization found in most communities. No matter how small the yard, there are found well kept lawns and growing plants. The fences are in good repair, the windows and vestibules seem to be cleaner and all around are evidences of pride. This seems to be a tradition in these two cities rather than the result of promotional effort.

For years a large number of frame houses there have never been painted on the outside. A visit on the inside of some of these homes will reveal attractive and well groomed arrangements. This is typically true of all of the Southern cities, especialy where poor whites and Negroes live. One would suspect that they are afraid of paint.

"One gets the feeling that Negro life in the South is much easier than in the North. In the South the Negro communities have accepted segregation and seem to do very little about it. They feel that it is hopeless to try to change it and set out to enjoy life under conditions. Some enterprising individuals have capitalized on this situation and operate separate tourist camps, bathing beaches, and state fairs.

"There was some disappointment in the lack of interest in emphasizing trade with Negroes. What few stores are owned by Negroes are neither modern nor attractive except in the larger centers and these are usually in the class of restaurants, taverns and pool halls.

"In the smaller areas of the South such as Scotland Neck, N. C. Saturday afternoons and evenings find all the colored people in surrounding communities 'going to town' and filling the streets, stores and taverns almost exclusively. It seems to be an unwritten rule in these small places that the white people wait until Monday to do their shopping in the various centers because there is no room for them on Saturday. It is a familiar scene to see wagons drawn by mules with scores of Negroes in them on the paved highway going to town. There seems to be a perfect understanding between them and the white people for the latter know they will stay in their places. In one of the southern cities of 45,000 inhabitants, we inquired as to where the colored people lived. Our informant told us "right down there where the pavement ends and the tin cans begin.'"

The teachers in the summer school, while they do not make much money, seem to enjoy their work and realize that the $60, $70 and $80 a month in states where the educational system is good are better off than they would be in the northern cities on WPA where they are struggling for a meager livelihood, Mr. Lane said.

On the whole the development of commercial enterprises and the maintenance of attractive neighborhoods seems to be lagging behind both in the North and South. Even a chance of lattitude does not alter patterns of living, observed the Urban League official.

#### FEDERAL HOUSING

The chief criticism levelled at the United States slum-clearance project is that the rentals are beyond the reach of the low income groups whom the movement is supposed to benefit. Although government figures fix rentals as low as $2.75 per room per month, reports from projects already built in several cities are to the effect that actually the rentals seldom are down to that figure and often exceed the government's top figure of $4.25 per room per month. Consequently, members of the slum-living low-income groups derive little benefit from Federal slum-clearance. Furthermore, when houses in the slum area are torn down to make way for the new government project, the former tenants are forced to move into equally undesirable habitations and another slum section is thereby established.

That certain probably unforeseen factors contribute to raise rentals above the government's original calculated rentals seems to be evident from the official statement that annual Federal contributions of money will be forthcoming to stabilize rentals within the announced limits. There is no reliable data on hand to prove that this process of supplementing the needed returns from this project has been effectual. But this in no wise detracts from the praiseworthy work which the U. S. H. A. has accomplished in meeting the housing needs of large numbers of low income families in the cities where the Federal projects have been erected. In Toledo, Cleveland, Wayne, Pa., Chicago, Cincinnati, Omaha, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Columbus, S. C., Cambridge, Mass. there are projects for white and colored occupancy; in some of them 35 to 90 per cent of the tenants are colored. The New Towne Court, the U. S. H. A. project in Cambridge, has a few colored tenants.

The program of the U. S. H. A. is decentralized. All low rent housing projects are initiated, developed and managed locally. Boston's local housing authority this week announced completion of plans for four Boston projects to cost $18,000,000 and to be located in Charlestown, South End, South Boston and the Mission Hill section of Roxbury. Funds amounting to $24,000,000 have been allocated to Boston for slum clearance and low-rent housing projects.

The construction of Federal housing will of course mean employment of skilled and unskilled workers. It is the policy of the Federal government that there shall be no discrimination because of race or color in hiring labor for housing projects. Before construction begins arrangements should be made to protect the rights of colored architects and colored workmen.

# Colored Children To Benefit From Paralysis Program

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP)—Nation-wide support this year is being given the President Roosevelt Annual Ball by Negroes, due to the fact that the Infantile Paralysis Association, beneficiary of this annual event has decided to turn its attention to making the benefits available to colored children.

Each year these dancing parties are promoted in various cities and communities throughout the nation and much go to support the work of the Warm Springs foundation, pet philanthropy of President Roosevelt. Part of the money thus raised is used to defray expenses at the sanitarium but the major part is set aside for research and experimental work in combating the dread disease.

The Infantile Paralysis Association has promised to establish a unit at Tuskegee Institute, where all of the research made possible at Warm Springs, will be made available for the training of Negro orthopedic surgeons and treatment of crippled colored babies and children.

Already the Tuskegee health service is doing great work under Dr. John Chenault, trained under auspices of Provident Hospital, Chicago, but the promise for the future is particularly bright. Crippled children from all over Alabama and nearby states are now being treated and it is hoped the Warm Springs Foundation will make possible the installation of therapeutic pools at Tuskegee.

# Lane Says Negroes in Urban Communities Are Neglecting Self-Improvement Opportunities

Negroes are neglecting many opportunities to improve the patterns of living, according to Frazier T. Lane, director of the Civic Improvement department of the Chicago Urban League, who has just returned from a 3,000-mile trip in Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, North Carolina, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Washington, D. C.

With very few exceptions, the majority of the Negro population is found in very definite areas or ghettos and the hub of activity centers around theatres, taverns and night clubs, he said. These areas are also characterized by large numbers of sub-standard and dilapidated dwellings. In those states where it is possible to purchase liquor in taverns or restaurants, Negro neighborhoods are studded with such places and they all seem to do a thriving business accompanied by the monotonous tempo of rowdy'sm."

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**Richmond, Washington Set Pace**

"Richmond and Washington are two cities which might well be a model for others to follow in regard to neatness and well kept premises," Mr. Lane asserted. "These sea-board towns present a beautiful aspect to one observing the amount of dilapidation and disorganization found in most communities. No matter how small the yard, there are found well kept lawns and growing plants. The fences are in good repair, the windows and vestibules seem to be cleaner and all around are evidences of pride. This seems to be a tradition in these two cities rather than the result of promotional effort.

"In the large Negro area of Cleveland one wonders if there are any paint concerns in the town. For years a large number of frame houses there have never been painted on the outside. A visit on the inside of some of these homes will reveal attractive and well-groomed arrangements. This is typically true of all of the southern cities, especially where poor whites and Negroes live. One would suspect that they are afraid of paint.

"One gets the feeling that Negro life in the South is much easier than in the North. In the South the Negro communities have accepted segregation and seem to do very little about it. They feel that it is hopeless to try to change it and set out to enjoy life under these conditions. Some enterprising individuals have capitalized on this situation and operate separate tourist camps, bathing beaches, and state fairs.

**Lack 'Trade with Negro' Attitude**

"There was some disapointment in the lack of interest in emphasizing trade with Negroes. What few stores are owned by Negroes are neither modern nor attractive except in the larger centers and these are usually in the class of restaurants, taverns and pool halls.

"In the smaller areas of the South such as Scotland Neck, N. C., Saturday afternoons and evenings find all the colored people in surrounding communities 'going to town' and filling the streets, stores and taverns almost exclusively. It seems to be an unwritten rule in these small places that the white people wait until Monday to do their shopping in the various centers because there is no room for them on Saturday. It is a familiar scene to see wagons drawn by mules with scores of Negroes in them on the paved highway going to town. There seems to be a perfect understanding between them and the white people, for the latter know they will stay in their places. In one of the southern cities of 45,000 inhabitants, we inquired as to where the colored people lived. Our informant told us 'right down there where the pavement ends and the tin cans begin.' "

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On the whole the development of commercial enterprises and the maintenance of attractive neighborhoods seems to be lagging behind both in the North and South. Even a change of latitude does not alter patterns of living, observed the Urban League official.

# Finds Life In South Easier Than North

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Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938

General

## Letters To The Editor

**Please be brief. We reserve the right to cut letters more than 300 words long**

**IN BEHALF OF "TOBACCO ROAD"**

Editor The Advertiser:

Here's hoping that mellow Montgomery will go its way and not be disturbed by a clashing of the elements when "Tobacco Road" moves on the city. It was disappointing to note that the first shot has been fired, but there is still the possibility that the war will not develop.

Four months ago I was in New York overnight and had three hours to spend. I have no apologies for devoting them to attending "Tobacco Road," and if I had [illegible] hours in New York I would pass up all its other wonders again and see the play a second time.

"Tobacco Road" is not a sociological treatise to be haggled over. It is a tragic comedy of the outer fringe of the human race. Every land in every age has had its Jukes and Kalikaks. Theirs is a world different from our own. Erskine Caldwell's portrayal of the Lester family may not be real, but those who have never had any contact with that type of people are not in a position to know.

There is nothing suggestive in "Tobacco Road"; that is, nothing is left to the imagination. On the printed page it may appear to be filthy and uncouth, but when seen on the stage its content is natural.

The play has shown in other Southern cities, and most Southerners with a sense of humor see it when they go to New York. Those who are interested should have the privilege of seeing it in Montgomery, and those who think it too naughty can remain at home and wish they had seen it. Or else they can sneak a copy of the book out of the library and read it.

But whether there are ten present or a full house, may Montgomery take it with equanimity.

GOULD M. BEECH.

Birmingham, Oct. 20, 1938.

# Says Negroes In Urban Communities Are Neglecting Their Opportunities

## Frazier T. Lane Tells of "The Monotonous" Tempo of Rowdyism" Following 3,000 Mile Trip.

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**FOLKS 'GOING TO TOWN'**

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Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
October 28, 1938

## The New Deal Philosophy III

Obviously it was necessary to make the country people think that government was saving them too. So "relief" was extended to all the states, and gifts and subsidies were "allocated." The country folk, especially in the South, were poor. A dollar looked as big to them as a wagon wheel. They had never learned to think in terms of ten of millions of dollars, and their millionaires were rare birds. Consequently when a Southern town was given $100,000 by Washington for a schoolhouse or swimming pool it was too happy to let its mind run on the gift of $10,000,000 for park improvement in a metropolis. A quarter tossed to a bellhop makes him as happy as a profit of a thousand dollars makes operators on the stock exchange.

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In parts of the United States few if any able-bodied persons have been in actual need. The people of Florida, for example, are seldom cold, food is so near to them that they are seldom hungry, but they need money for cars and gasoline. Michiganders and New Yorkers may freeze or starve. Nevertheless, to get votes it was required that the government make a pretense of sharing gifts equally among the states,

whether they need them or not. This was no more than a pretense, but it has served. A congressman pointing to one million dollars which "he has gotten" for his district well knows that nine of ten of his constituents will be too happy to inquire about the twenty millions sent to a "doubtf district in Pennsylvania. Three of eve four voters in the average district look on their congressman and on Harry Hopkins, Ickes and President Roosevelt as they regard a philanthropist who builds for them a library with money of his making and saving. These three of four never trouble to reflect that government has not a dollar of its own, that it is their money that government spends.

Therefore, congressmen vote the great sums with a tacit understanding with the executive department that the money will be spent where and how it will reelect them. Thus federal machines are built in the states, though it has come to pass this year that in many states the congressmen broke loose from the White House and turned their machines against it. That is the main reason that the "purge" failed.

The two big ideas in the New Deal are centralized government and democracy—little d, not party democracy. Brain trusters, the intelligent of them, perceive that the more abundant life, social security, insurance, education, controlled factory and farm production, the "socialized state," are idle dreams unless there shall be Power in Washington which states with their two senators and congressmen cannot withstand. At this moment these states are hindering the planned economy, or, in the phrase of the 'liberals,' are "sabotaging" it. All persons who differ with the president and his advisers are "saboteurs," persons who throw monkey wrenches into the New Deal machinery.

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However, the constitution that independent states created, remains. The states have representation in congress by no means based on numbers of inhabitants. The senate can reject presidential appointments; the congress can and does refuse to allow the president to make over a supreme court. Granting, for discussion's sake, that the president's, or New Deal's planning is wholly good, righteous, benevolent, pregnant with blessing and happiness for all the people, the constitution, which the states made and which reserves tremendous powers to the states, especially, in their senatorial and electoral college representation, is a mountain in the New Deal path. To remove it, to thrust aside a mountain, instantly, is impracticable. It cannot be done.

What then is to be done? The only process immediately at hand is to buy voters. The more democracy, the more the voters, and the more the voters the greater proportion of them can be bought. In South Carolina, for example, few negroes vote. Therefore, few or none are bought. On the other hand, in the Northern cities where are 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 negro voters, about 40 per cent of them are on relief. Ninety per cent of the Northern negroes left the Republican party, with which they had voted seventy-one years, and turned Democrats in 1936. This was no "miracle." Most of this negro vote was bought outright. If we are to have democracy (little d) in this country Southern negroes must vote. Our Southern ways are a flat repudiation of democracy—and The News and Courier approves it.

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Nor is the purchasable vote confined to negroes. Millions of the whites are "influenced." Director Harry Hopkins is of course correct when he says that "naturally" 90 per cent of the people on relief will vote for the government that extends the relief to them.

Hence, to effect the righteous objectives of the New Deal it is necessary to create and maintain a body of voters who can and will elect a majority of the senators and representatives. These voters can be rounded up most easily in the great cities, and these cities dominate their states, their primaries and convention. No city dominates Missouri, but cities dominate Pennsylvania and New York. Pennsylvania (the rock-ribbed Republican state until 1936) has received more federal money in the last five or six years than all the Southern states together. If the New Deal can rely on a body of bought votes sufficient to be the balance of power in federal elections, the partnership between the congress and the White House will be complete, and congress would as well cease to exist. The economic plans and objectives will be realized, because the man in the White House will have autocratic power. Votes should give it to him. That is the philosophy of the New Deal.

Whence will come the money for all this? The government will get it as it is getting it now, by taxation and borrowing. The majority of the people probably do not believe they are taxed. They do not think of the federal tax when they buy a car, a gallon of gasoline, a pack of cigarets. They believe, have always believed and perhaps always will believe, that the rich, the "plutocrats," the employers, the "Tories," who do all the screaming and cursing, pay nearly all the taxes. The country is in the ninth year of successive deficits and borrowing. The New Dealers have quit talking about balancing the budget, about making ends meet. This borrowing cannot go on forever, and that every able New Dealer from the president down knows, though none mentions it. Unless a halt be called and obeyed, we shall have inflation, cheap money, repudiation of debts. The way out will be revolution, not necessarily bloody, but revolution. When that crisis arrives it is more than possible that The News and Courier and the other Tories and economic royalists will advocate a dictatorship.

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Beyond shadow of a doubt most of the convinced and conscientious "liberals"—they are virtually all in the great cities — are eager for this crisis to come. They want this republic of states amalgamated in One Big State. They are intelligent and are well aware that the New Deal objectives are so much nonsense as long as the states and the constitution shall not be torn down.

President Roosevelt probably does not entertain this design. Our opinion is that he is without a consistent and reasoned design that stretches beyond the next elections and the success of the Democratic party organization.

In the minds of the real New Dealers, the intellectuals and the great city politicians, men like Wagner, LaGuardia, the design is revolution. They want a diluted Marxianism. They are for federal spending because governmental bankruptcy is their dearest wish. The greater the debts and deficits the nearer they are to their goal, and the help to the poor, and unemployed is to them, for the present, a minor incident of a great progress. These "liberals," we say again, are thinkers, many of them are brilliant, and some of them are honest and good men, however we think they are terribly and dangerously mistaken.

Such is the philosophy of the New Deal, and the loudest of the New Dealers, so calling themselves, in South Carolina, have no more conception of it than has a pasture full of goats.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938 General

# NURSERY SCHOOL PROVIDES EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN

Plaindealer 9-23-38
Kansas City Kansas

Over 6,000 Negro children of preschool age are benefiting from the training and care given them in more than 100 nursery schools provided in the Education Program of the Works Progress Administration. Not to be confused with day nurseries, these WPA nursery schools are havens for tots coming from underprivileged families. The pictures above show some of these children who share in this Federal-directed project.

Some 700 capable Negro workers are employed in WPA nursery schools. Under their guidance, the children are taught good habits in an environment which best develops their physical, mental, emotional and social relationships. Leaving no stone unturned in seeing that their charges get off on a good start toward useful citizenship, the WPA Nursery school teachers get the cooperation of the home in studying the needs of the children. They also see that the parents learn the best methods of caring for and training the tots.

Entire communities throughout the Nation have learned the value of preschool training for their children. These youngsters learn to face the world beyond their cradles and cots and miss none of the fun as they learn. (WPA photos.)

Tampa, Fla., Times
August 30, 1938

## Atlanta [illegible]steps Ahead In Slum Clearance

With Tampa's $1,600,000 slum clearance project still short of the construction stage, Tampans may be interested in an Atlanta project which is the second step in that Georgia city's housing plan.

Techwood, a $7,000,000 white housing project in Atlanta, was one of the first completed in the nation. Another project, University Homes for Negroes, has also been occupied long enough for critics and advocates of rehousing to study results.

It was no surprise to either group to find that rents of $5.52 per room per month in Techwood and of $4.36 per room per month in University Homes were still too high to make it possible for "slum dwellers" to occupy the new apartments.

Rents in the proposed Tampa project for Negroes have been set at $3.75 per room per month and the Tampa Housing Authority is doubtless entertaining no illusions about the ability of low-income Negroes to move right into the new quarters.

But Atlantans aren't dissatisfied with their first slum clearance steps.

For one reason, an unsightly slum dwelling had to be torn down for every new unit erected. For another, real estate values as far as six blocks away jumped 150 to 300 percent higher.

The new apartments were filled as soon as they were completed and rent collections have been near 100 percent. Community health records in the new projects have been higher than for the

city at large and a new community civic spirit is clearly discernible.

This, however, still left the slum dwellers who could only move to other slums. A third project is being drafted in an effort to reach them with new housing projects in which rooms will rent for $2.50 per month to Negroes and $3.50 per month to whites.

Obviously this is going to require a heavy subsidy for the new projects but many Atlanta business men ordinarily opposed to government spending are said to approve this project because of the increased property valuations expected to result.

The $2.50-$3.50 rent scale will be low enough to reach all but 2.2 percent of Atlanta's white population and all but 13.1 percent of the Negro population—the very bottom of the economic heap which presents a still graver problem.

Tampa's first single project cannot of course, be adequate either in space provided or rents charged to reach so low in the economic scale, but results of the first project may encourage other public and private rehousing work as they have in Atlanta.

# Low Income Families To Share In Housing Program

Journal and Guide

## 18 Cities Get Loan Contracts Amounting To $48,279,000

10-8-38 Norfolk Va

### Negro Skilled and Unskilled Labor To Participate In Building Program

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Low income Negro families, from coast to coast and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf, are now scheduled to share in the Government's $800,000,000 low-rent housing program.

The nation's slum clearance campaign was considerably extended when President Roosevelt approved contracts for loans by the United States Housing Authority to local Housing Authorities in Annapolis, Md.; Oakland, Calif.; Buffalo, N. Y.; and Mobile, Ala., which were among 18 cities for which loan contracts amounting to $48,279,000 were recently recommended by Nathan Straus, USHA Administrator.

Of the 10,140 dwelling units to be constructed in these 18 cities, 3,381 or one-third, have been designated for Negro occupancy, according to Dr. Robert C. Weaver, special assistant to Administrator Straus. Negro applicants will be considered for tenancy in many projects which have been built predominantly for white occupancy.

These loans bring to a total of $202,807,000 the amount of funds which the government has so far covered in loan contracts in this war on the slums of the nation. This should provide for the construction of new housing for 40,636 low income families in 43 cities. Nearly 12,000 of these dwelling units have been designated for Negro occupancy.

**EIGHTEEN CITIES**

In addition to Oakland, Annapolis, Buffalo, and Mobile, the eighteen cities for which loan contracts have been approved recently include the following cities in which projects are to be developed for predominant Negro occupancy; Covington, Ky.; New Orleans, La.; Baltimore, Md.; Newark, N. J.; Chester, Pa.; Corpus Christi, Texas; and Huntington, W. Va.

The loans cover not more than 90 per cent of the total costs of developing the various projects, the local authorities contributing the remainder. Accompanying each loan contract is an annual contributions contract in which the USHA promises to make annual contributions to the local housing authorities. These loans will enable the local housing authorities to keep the rents within reach of low income families, ranging from $2.75 to $4.25 per room per month.

The government's slum clearance and low-rent housing program will ultimately provide 148,300 dwelling units to rehouse 600,000 persons, according to an estimate of Mr. Straus. A total of $889,000,000, including the 10 per cent contribution of local authorities, will be expended on this program.

Of this sum about $258,000,000 will be paid to construction workers on the site. An estimated $400,000,000 will be paid to workers employed in the fabrication and transportation of building materials and equipment to be used in the projects.

Negro labor, skilled and unskilled, will participate in this extensive construction program. In order to insure adequate consideration of Negro labor, the office of racial relations, and the division of labor relations of the USHA will cooperate with local authorities in the encouragement of contractual provisions designed to assure Negro workers an equitable share of the vast sum of money to be paid out in wages.

Social Conditions, Improvement of-1938

General.

Macon, Ga., Telegraph
April 10, 1938

# THE SOUTH TODAY

## *The City Pays for Rural Poverty*

By ARTHUR RAPER

(Copyright, 1937, by Southern Newspaper Syndicate)

(Editor's Note: Arthur Raper, professor of sociology at Agnes Scott College, and research secretary of the commission on interracial co-operation, is author of "Preface to Peasantry," a sociological survey of the tenant farmer situation, considered by many the most comprehensive work on this subject ever written.)

ARTHUR RAPER

Business men and social scientists agree in stressing the mutual interdependence of the city and the rural community. An increase in farm incomes means a increased volume of business in the city; a decrease in farm incomes means a drop in business. This relationship between urban and rural prosperity is obvious, but the full significance of the interdependence is not so readily grasped.

One important fact to be noted is the basic relation between the growth of cities and the decay of rural communities. In the South the situation is clearly evident, for most of the urban population increase of recent decades has come from impoverished rural sections. The large cities have a relatively low birth rate and their rapid growth has been possible only because rural people have migrated to them in large numbers.

The typical Southern city takes its racial complexion and cultural character no less from its rural migrants than from the cosmopolitan influences of its national and international business interests. It is significant that while a considerable part of the membership of the leading civic clubs of almost any large Southern city come from the North and East the great majority of the unemployed were born and reared on outlying cotton farms. This does not argue that the people who migrated here from other regions have greater innate capacity than Southern farm people, but rather it indicated their relatively superior opportunities for development in economic and cultural pursuits.

### Soil Depleted

A spot map of Georgia, showing the location of the counties with the greatest decrease of farmers since 1920, clearly outlines the old plantation regions of the state. The reasons for the population movement from this area are not far to seek: the havoc wrought by the boll weevil in the early '20's was the immediate cause, while the underlying causes were the progressive depletion of the soil and the impoverishment of the tenant farmers.

With their numbers increasing and their condition growing worse year by year, the landless farmers had become relatively unproductive and very expensive to the plantation system. When the weevil came, the propertyless tenants were unable to pay their rents and settle their furnishing accounts. The result was that many plantation owners went into bankruptcy. With no advance of food and clothing from landowners, the landless families had no resources with which to remain on the land. A veritable exodus occurred. They left this old plantation area virtual refugees. Able to raise but little money, most of them stopped at the nearest large city—the first place where surpluses had accumulated.

A study of the migrants from one Georgia plantation county shows that ten years after the exodus six times as many of them were living in Atlanta as in any other city, and eight times as many in Georgia as in any other state.

### The City Pays

The adjustment problems of these rural refugees after they reached the cities show how the city pays for rural poverty. Case records of the Atlanta Family Welfare Society revealed that over 80 per cent of their clients from 1923 to 1928 were born outside of Atlanta, and that nearly 75 per cent had migrated to Atlanta from the old plantation section. The region referred to lies across the state, two or three counties deep, just south of Atlanta. Not only did most of the clients come from this area, but about two-thirds of them had been living in Atlanta less than five years when they were first given assistance. Preliminary investigations in Atlanta and other cities show that these rural refugees still swell the list of the chronically unemployed and of the unemployable.

The fact that they were the last comers and that there was a severe shrinkage of city jobs in the early '30's accounts for only a part of their plight. The men folks were unskilled and unacquainted with modern machines. The field tools they had used as tenant farmers were few and simple. Their familiarity with the one-horse gears, single-stock plows, long-handle hoes, and double-blade axes did not prepare them for city jobs. These ex-farmers from the cotton South—with a few noticeable exceptions—had lived in a one-horse civilization.

The farm tenant women knew nothing about the household conveniences of the city homes when they offered themselves for work as domestics. Back on the tenant farms, they had done the family wash over tubs, carried water in lard cans or ten-quart buckets, and bathed the children in tin wash pans. While city contractors and factory owners were bearing the cost of initiating the ex-tenant men in the uses of power-driven machines and the methods of mass production, their wives were teaching the ex-tenant women to sweep rugs with vacuum cleaners and walk with confidence on waxed floors.

* * *

### Lack Physical Stamina

The health of these migrants was often poor, their vitality low. This, too, the city pays for. Not uncommonly the lack of physical stamina necessary to hold a job was the by-product of the ex-tenant's inadequate food. Frequently his rural diet had been limited to fatback meat, corn bread, sorghum molasses, and sweet potatoes in season. Scarcely one-half of the families had a cow. Too often their gardens had amounted to little. Only one-tenth had enough home-canned fruits and vegetables to be of any real value. In many of the cotton cabins from which they had come a can of pink salmon was a delicacy.

* * *

Medical care of farm tenants and wage hands had been poor enough when the plantation was still regnant. With its collapse, the situation was worse, for there was frequently a period of weeks or months between the time when the tenant family was no longer provided for on the plantation and the time when they moved to Atlanta or some other city.

The cost to the city of the unemployment, lack of skill and poor health of these rural refugees has been further augmented by their pessimism and passivity. Some had tried to buy land, had put their meager accumulations of years into it, only to lose it when the sale price of their farms fell below the figure they still owed on them. Others who had hoped to buy land saw the plight of their neighbors and decided there was no use even to try. By the time they migrated many of these disillusioned farm folk had decided to make no further effort to accumulate anything. They reached the cities fatalists of the first order.

* * *

### No Citizenship Background

These stranded rural refugees who migrated to the cities were costly, too, from the standpoint of citizenship. They had no tradition of participation. They had taken no active, responsible part in community affairs. They were the inarticulate recipients of such public policy and private practices as had prevailed in the community. Often without "Sunday clothes" and seldom with money for the collection plate, many of these ex-tenant families had never been active in church. In the field of public education, the children of these tenants often had inadequate clothing and books. Sometimes they had been kept in the cotton fields by landlords, sometimes by their own faltalistic and inarticulate parents.

The educational opportunities, health facilities, and other public services in a community are closely related to the material resources of that community. The per capita taxable wealth of our largest cities is from three to five times that of the rural counties from which they draw their population. This fact, of itself, emphasizes the need for statewide and nation-wide educational and health and public welfare standards, not only for the benefit of those people who dwell in the poorer rural areas but also as a protection to the metropolitan communities whose population is recruited from these areas. Inarticulate people without hope are always costly to a community—costly in terms of low incomes and high expenditures, even more costly in terms of balked democracy and low morale.

Complicating the whole situation is the fact that for decades the city dwellers have been buying farm products cheaply and selling the farmers town-made goods and town administered services dearly. This poor balance between urban and rural economy, not unrelated to the national tariff, has put additional pressure upon the farmers to increase their cash earnings lest they lose their lands to their city creditors. Unable to compete successfully with the organized city interests, the farm owners have further exploited the farm tenants and wage hands, who in turn have exploited the irreplaceable soil, in which all of society has a stake.

Clearly, there are inescapable interdependence between urban and rural wage levels, between urban and rural standards of living, between urban and rural methods of community control. Intelligent urban leaders cannot ignore the economic conditions and the living standards of rural dwellers, except at great cost to themselves—for urban creditors can collect, only from solvent rural debtors, and metropolitan centers can replenish their population with healthy and hopeful rural migrants only when living conditions in farm communities have been vastly improved.

City dwellers can well afford to join their rural kinsfolk in helping our state and federal governments, and private agencies, launch programs which will conserve and restore our soil fertility and other natural resources, and which will afford opportunities for our people to achieve whatever they may in self-direction, in economic well-being, and in cultural development.

# THE SOUTH TODAY

## *This Business of Relief*

By RUPERT VANCE

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**Editor's Note:** Rupert Vance of the University of North Carolina is a regular contributor to prominent periodicals. Dr. Vance's book, "Human Geography of the South," won the Mayflower Cup for the best book written by a North Carolinian in 1933.

We might as well admit it. Nothing has this country so buffaloed as this business of relief. And nothing has so completely baffled us in the South as the question of rural relief.

Relief has been a bitter pill for the American people; bitter for the many self-respecting workers who were once self-supporting; bitter also for the taxpayers who have to foot the bills—now or later. That the need for relief should exist in the open country has proved incomprehensible to many. Yet for all their self-support, our farmers have not escaped the relief rolls.

As a matter of fact, beyond the charges and countercharges occasionally emitted in Congress, the average respectable citizen in the South knows probably less about the relief situation than any other thing that affects his pocketbook and the national welfare. He has no doubt been used to seeing rural poverty around him, but not much poverty that had to be, or could be, supported on public funds. He can understand the need of relief for unemployed people in cities where everything costs money, but he can't see why farmers can't at least feed themselves.

### Heavy Rural Relief Load

The scope of rural relief may be indicated briefly by the following figures: At one time or another in the United States from 1932 to 1938, more than one out of every four rural families, 3,500,000 in number, have received some form of relief. What with foreclosures, drouth and tenancy the relief turnover has been tremendous. When federal funds became available in late 1932, the rural relief load rose rapidly to a million and a quarter cases by March, 1933, when one-tenth of all rural families in the United States were receiving relief. The peak was reached in January, 1935, with nearly two million rural families, one out of every six, on relief. At least another half million received help from sons in CCC camps, old age assistance or rehabilitation loans.

Not all this represents agricultural distress. By definition the rural population includes people in towns under 2,500. This affords a partial explanation of high relief rates, for half of the rural relief cases have been in towns and villages. Many of these places were agricultural villages and represented agricultural distress; others were trade centers, mining and industrial villages, and their distress must be charged up to other sources. The cost of relief for our rural people has been much less than for urban dwellers, but it has been increasing. From 1932 to 1936 rural relief increased its share of the total relief cost from 15 to 27 per cent.

The examination of relief by regions discloses many interesting facts. The largest relief expenditures per person in the total population were concentrated in the drouth area of the great plains, in the mountain states, in the cut-over areas of the Great Lakes, and in the northern part of the Appalachian highlands. The corn belt and hay and dairy region have the smallest proportions on relief, well under 10 per cent during the whole depression. When the relief administration came to delimit its six great rural problem areas, it found three of these in the South, the eastern cotton belt, the western cotton belt and the Appalachians.

### Low Payments in South

Nevertheless, contrary to general belief, relief demands in the South have not unduly drained the treasury as compared to other areas. Where the Southern areas have shown high relief loads, they have shown low payments per case. Thus, in July, 1933, when the average family on relief in Massachusetts received $32.77 per month, the average case in Mississippi received $3.96. In April, 1936, when the New York average was $38.59, Arkansas trailed with $5.80 per family.

During the last three years 14 out of 48 states have at one time or another granted less than an average of $10 per family for relief. As might be expected, almost every state in the Southeast and Southwest falls into this group; only two are excepted—North Carolina and Arizona. Only two in this group are found outside the South—West Virginia and Wyoming.

Under the WPA the South was placed in Region Four, with the lowest scale of relief wages—$19 a month for unskilled farm labor, as compared with $40 for the same grade in the region centering in the North and West. For skilled workers the differential runs from $35 for the Southeast to $85 for the urban North.

Not only does relief cost less in the South, but fewer of certain disadvantages classes are on relief. In many Northern cities a survey of the public health service showed 50 per cent or more of the Negro families on relief. In the South the proportion is much lower, although more are shown to have low incomes. Something of the same sort is shown by the relief grants and rehabilitation advances for farm families. Almost 600,000 such farm families received these grants and loans in June, 1935. Thirty-eight per cent of these families were in the 11 states of the Southeast, yet most of these states had less than 10 per cent of their farm tenants and owner families receiving such aid. Much higher per capita expenditures were found necessary in the drouth states west of the Mississippi. Oklahoma was hard hit by the drouth. It and Texas, together, furnished 15.7 per cent of those receiving rural relief and rehabilitation in the entire country. Consequently the cotton South—even with its low relief rates—furnished 54 per cent of all rural relief clients.

### Needs Not Adequately Met

The darkest part of the picture, however, comes to view when we consider that in all probability relief needs have not yet been adequately met in the South. Corrington Gill of the WPA, in testimony before the senate committee on relief and unemployment, stated that current needs are most acute in the cotton states where it is estimated 200,000 destitute rural cases are receiving no form of aid. Here the numbers who need relief but are not receiving it are larger in many areas than the number who have been granted assistance. Approximately two-thirds of the of the unassisted needy cases are farm tenants, croppers and laborers. Reports indicate that few of them can meet present requirements for standard loans from the farm security administration. General relief, he stated, except for a relatively small number of unemployables

RUPERT VANCE

is practically non-existent in half of the counties studied, especially those in the Southern states. The Mississippi Delta offers an example of the severity of current need in many areas of the South. In Craighead county, Arkansas, there were between 1,000 and 1,500 needy unemployed families at the turn of the year; 300 of these were in a critical condition. This, it must be remembered, was after the largest cotton crop in our history. Timber workers, farm laborers and transient cotton pickers, and former tenants help overtax the resources of WPA, local welfare departments and the Farm Security Administration.

Furthermore there seems no likelihood that these rural relief needs will soon decrease. Both the Appalachians and Cotton Belt have areas that will furnish us with relief problems for a long time to come.

More than one government survey has pointed to the sober conclusion that the resident population in the Appalachians is already too large to permit an adequate standard of living and is increasing rapidly. "It is difficult," says one report of the WPA, "to see how under any program of rehabilitation or reemployment, all the man power of this area can be absorbed in any industry that has reached the limit of expansion, and the solution of the tenancy problem now proposed is the elimination of the share cropper, for, mechanical cotton picker or no, mechanization is on the way. The tractor and the newly developed cropper have put in their appearance to coincide with the need for crop reduction. Whether the pinch comes through depression and price failure, loss of foreign markets, mechanization, crop restriction, or all these factors combined, the fact must be faced that thousands of families once employed as cotton croppers cannot get a crop to tend. Expansion is past, and there are no cotton farms to which our youth may migrate. For a long time cropper-tenancy in the Cotton Belt was an open system into which maturing youth without capital and education could easily flow. It was also one of the hardest systems to get out of. Now it is hard to get into and easy to get out of.

Does agriculture want these people, can industry use them? If not, we may have to put them on relief, too, or watch some of them slowly starve.

## POOR HOUSING TO CONTINUE

Dr. Robert C. Weaver, special assistant to Nathan Straus, chairman of the National Housing Authority, has announced that Negroes have benefited nationally in the $800,000,000 program under that department. In some states this is true, for numerous subsidized housing projects have been erected in several cities and no doubt Negroes have been able to finance homes through the FHA.

Unfortunately, Mr. Weaver has not been in Des Moines; neither has this liberality toward the Negro, about which he speaks. Here in Des Moines the citizens have drawn an imaginary line around every section, where Negroes live and put thumbs down on loans in their sections. And not only do they refuse to make loans, but also to a white person living in or near a so-called Negro neighborhood.

This policy does three things: First, it prevents Negroes from taking advantage of low cost loans to finance their properties; second, it refuses to serve the economic group—white and black—for which the project was primarily intended; third, it forces whites who may have no obections to living near a Negro pull away from him in order to take advantage of a government loan—in fact it breeds segregation.

As far as Iowa is concerned, Negroes have profited by none of the benefits the New Deal has offered except relief and the Home Owners Loan Corporation. The former has been made by the department here in Des Moines are poor and even though the FHA proposes to aid people secure better homes and modernize their old ones, every effort has been sent by Hopkins into Chicago

# 200,000 Southern Farm Workers To Get WPA Relief

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—Two hundred-thousand southern farm workers will be added to the relief rolls until harvest time, Harry L. Hopkins, WPA chief stated Thursday.

Replying to charges that WPA funds had been added to farm tenants as a political move in getting votes for the coming Presidential election, Hopkins branded anyone as cynical who even intimated such charges.

Hopkins told reporters that at least 90 per cent of farm workers would vote for President Roosevelt if he were up for re-election.

"Anyone would have to be pretty cynical to assume there is a political motive in the plan to aid farm workers. It seems to us that what these people need is a few months' work a year at the time when they need it," Hopkins said.

As far as the Negro farm workers of the South are concerned, who will share in the WPA relief, their vote would hardly be felt in a national election, the only time the entire southern colored populace may vote. However, the southern Negro leaders the New Deal program by a large majority.

Current reports of alleged use of relief funds for political purposes are circulating in many states. WPA investigators have

and Missouri to inquire into charges of political feuds due to government relief aid.

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Dr. Robert C. Weaver, special assistant to Nathan Straus, chairman of the National Housing Authority, has announced that Negroes have benefited nationally in the $800,000,000 program under that department. In some states this is true, for numerous low-cost housing projects have been erected in several cities and no doubt Negroes have been able to finance homes through the FHA.

Unfortunately, Mr. Weaver has not been in Des Moines; neither has this liberality toward the Negro, about which he speaks. Here in Des Moines the officials have drawn an imaginary line around every section, where Negroes live and put thumbs down on loans in their sections. And not only do they refuse to make loans, but also to a white person living in or near a so-called Negro neighborhood.

This policy does three things: First, it prevents Negroes from taking advantage of low cost loans to finance their properties; second, it refuses to serve the economic group—white and black—for which the project was primarily intended; third, it forces whites who may have no obections to living near a Negro pull away from him in order to take advantage of a government loan—in fact it breeds segregation.

As far as Iowa is concerned, Negroes have profited by none of the New Deal has offered except relief and the Home Owners Loan Corporation. The former has been made by the department here benefits the Negroes are poor and even as Iowa is concerned, the only time the Negro gains the New Deal profits the lowest bracket of whatever benefits.

# 200,000 Southern Farm Workers To Get WPA Relief

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)— Two hundred-thousand southern farm workers will be added to the relief rolls until harvest time, Harry L. Hopkins, WPA chief stated Thursday.

Replying to charges that WPA funds had been added to farm tenants as a political move in getting votes for the coming Presidential election, Hopkins branded anyone as cynical who even intimated such charges.

Hopkins told reporters that at least 90 per cent of farm workers would vote for President Roosevelt if he were up for re-election. "Anyone would have to be pretty cynical to assume there is a political motive in the plan to aid farm workers. It seems to us that what these people need is a few months' work a year at the time when they need it," Hopkins said.

As far as the Negro farm workers of the South are concerned, who will share in the WPA relief, their vote would hardly be felt in a national election, the only time the entire southern colored populace may vote. However, the New Deal program by a large majority alleged use Current reports of relief funds for political purposes are circulating in many states. WPA investigators have been sent by Hopkins into Chicago

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938

General.

# Rural Negro On Relief Faces Crisis

WASHINGTON (ANP) — The rural Negro on relief, although better off than his urban brothers, is faced with greater difficulties than his white neighbors who need aid. This fact, and other disclosures related to the rural Negro on relief was made public in a recent WPA study assembled in a monograph entitled "Effects of the Works Program on Rural Relief."

The investigation was made by the WPA Division of Social Research. The major study was conducted in sample counties in Montana, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Iowa, West Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia. Only in North Carolina was any attempt made to break down the findings as between Negroes and whites.

"In private industry," the report observes, "Negroes' earnings averaged considerably less than those of whites, but on the works program the difference between their earnings and those of whites was not so great. White heads of households employed on the works program reported smaller average earnings than did whites employed in private industry, but Negroes employed on the works program reported smaller average earnings than did whites employed in private industry, but Negroes employed on the works program reported average earnings greater than those received by Negroes employed in private industry."

**Before the survey was started, social service research workers of the WPA had discovered that an examination of the family and personal traits of the Negroes on relief disclosed striking differences from those of whites. For one thing they found that the hardships of Negroes arose, in part, from family and marital difficulties, with broken families and the resultant social and economic handicaps more general among the colored group.**

### MAJORITY FEMALE

A rather striking fact brought out by a relief census of October, 1933, was that of all Negroes on relief under the age of 45, the majority were females. Moreover, a bare six percent of the male Negro workers on relief rolls in 1933 were inexperienced workers—this is, those seeking employment who had performed no gainful work during the past ten years. This census also revealed that about one-fifth of the female workers in urban areas, and one-third in rural areas were inexperienced.

Formal education of the Negroes on relief was quite limited, the census also showed. In urban communities one-tenth, and in rural communities one-sixth of the Negro workers on the rolls in March, 1933, had not completed as much as one year of schooling. Relatively half as many Negroes as whites had obtained eight or more years of education in school.

**With little or no education or training, and with restricted economic opportunity as compared with the white persons on relief, the Negro had to turn to unskilled labor to earn a living. Thus, two-thirds of the male and nine-tenths of the female Negro workers reported unskilled occupations.**

### WAGE DIFFERENTIALS

At the time of the survey, North Carolina and Georgia were in Region IV where the security wage rates for rural areas were from $19 to $39 a month. On July 1, 1936, all states in this region were transferred to WPA Wage Scale Region III, where the security wage for rural counties was from $21 to $42 a month. Workers, the survey reveals, received an average of $21 in Georgia and $22 in North Carolina.

Negroes received $20 and $19 in the two states, as compared with $22 and $24 for whites. As the security wage rates were the same for whites and Negroes for the same grade of work, these differences in earning are related to the greater proportions of white employed at skilled occupations which command higher rates.

## Negroes Must Aid In Social Planning

NEW YORK, N. Y.—"It is important that Negroes assume the obligation of contributing to a social plan of well being for all American citizens," says T. Arnold Hill, director of the Department of Industrial Relations of the National Urban League, in "The Negro and Economic Reconstruction," a booklet published this week by the Associates in Negro Folk Education, Washington, D. C.

"Minorities must contend continuously for rights and privileges—not only because these will come no other way; but also because their attainment is necessary for the fulfillment of the democratic ideal," he continues.

Birmingham, Ala. News
September 11, 1938

# ECONOMIC REPORT NOT FAIR TO SOUTH

## *It Deals With Generalities, Has Some Ambiguous, Misleading Statements*

BY FITZGERALD HALL
President Southern States Industrial Council

While it is true that the "Report on Economic Conditions of the South" is concerned primarily with what the South needs—and it is conceded that its needs are great—yet in reading the report one is amazed to find that it deals largely in generalities such as might be applied to almost any other section of the United States, with a similar concentration of population, degree of urbanization and diversification of industry.

To the average reader, many of the statements will be ambiguous and misleading, and throughout there seems to be a lack of understanding or ability to evaluate those factors responsible for the economic conditions described. Its inaccuracies, which in general are caused as much by omissions and lack of qualification of statements as anything else, and its sweeping generalities place it in a class with that vast volume of material which has been written about the South deploring its sad state of affairs, holding it up to ridicule and shame, but offering no tangible solution of its problems. It does the South a grave injustice.

Many of us operating businesses in the South, familiar with its actual conditions, consider the South to be the No. 1 economic hope of the nation.

1. For example, the study is replete with illustrations placing the South in the lower brackets in practically all measures of economic condition, but nowhere is there specific mention made of the depressing influence, in dealing in averages, of the fact that 29 per cent of its population is colored. The report does not point out that the standard of living and the income of Negroes everywhere in the United States, in general, is lower than that of the white population; nor does it say that with such a large concentration of Negroes in the South average figures for that section are obviously greatly affected thereby.

Why were not the facts brought out which were made available in recent studies of consumer purchases by the United States Department of Agriculture, giving a comparison of family income by occupations in 140 villages in the United States? In these studies it was found that the median annual income of non-relief white families was more in the Southeast than in most other sections of the country. In 15 Georgia and South Carolina villages the annual income was $1,309, in 18 North Carolina and Mississippi villages it was $1,764, as compared with $1,477 for 14 Vermont and Massachusetts villages, $1,075 for 19 Illinois and Iowa villages, $1,167 for 13 villages in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and $1,208 for 14 villages in Michigan and Wisconsin.

However, if Negro families were included, the average for Southern villages would be greatly depressed as compared with the average income in villages that have little or no Negro population. The question might be asked, Why does not the South do something about raising the standards for the Negroes? That problem is nation-wide, for the relative economic position of the race is the same in every section of the country, but is simply more noticeable in the South, because of its predominance here. That all should cooperate to alleviate this situation is obvious.

### Some Points Not Clear

2. Another interesting point brought out in the studies mentioned above is that in the Southeast, North Central and Midatlantic regions, it was possible for families to show increases in net worth on a lower annual wage than in other sections. In other words, proportionately more families showed increases in net worth on incomes of from $750-$999 annually in these areas than in other sections. But, this was not brought out in the report. Instead, it was stated that there was little difference in living costs, about 5 per cent, as between large cities in the North and South, and this was assumed to apply to the whole South, both rural and urban.

3. In a brief appraisal of the report it is possible to call attention to only a few salient points that need immediate clarification and correction. Among these is the statement which says that "In spite of longer working hours, the total annual wages show the same discrepancies." A report by the Bureau of Labor Statistics covering data for 9 manufacturing idustries for 1935 reveals that the average hours worked per month in the South

were 152.7 as compared with 159.0 for the North and 165.4 for the West. Figures for April, 1938, from the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate that the average hours worked for the country as a whole in all manufacturing industries were 34.2 hours per week. In comparison, all manufacturing industries in the South in April averaged 33.8 hours, according to the records of the Southern States Industrial Council; thus refuting the statement that working hours are longer in the South than in other sections.

4. The statement is also made that "Industrial earnings of workers are often 30 to 50 per cent below national averages." A very complete study by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, entitled "Geographical Variation in Hours and Wages During 1933 and 1935," covering 59 selected industries of outstanding importance, points out that "Some form of average is also needed to eliminate from the average, as far as possible, differences in hourly earnings that arise from differences in the relative importance of the industries in the several regions." By constructing such a weighted average, it was discovered that industrial wages in the South as a whole, covering industries employing the majority of workers, were only 15.3 per cent lower than in the North, although somewhat greater variations were apparent in a few industries. It is also true that there are variations as between sections in the South, but the same thing is true in the North as well. For example, it was found that average wages in the 59 industries in one study referred to above, varied from an average of 49.9 cents in New England states to a high of 66.5 cents in the East North Central states—a difference of 16.6 cents, or a differential as between sections in the North of 25 per cent. The rate for the South for these same industries was 44.2 cents; thus, there is a difference of only 5.7 cents between wages in the South and those in the New England area.

5. The chapter on industry refers to the cotton textile industry and states that: "During the year 1933 the percentage of the wages to the value added by manufacture was 60.8 per cent in five states in New England, as against 55.5 per cent in five Southern states." It neglects to say, however, that in 1935 wages paid by all Southern manufacturers constituted 41.2 per cent of the value added by manufacture, while in the North and East wages constituted only 39.4 per cent of the value added. Southern manufacturers, after paying wages, salaries cost of materials, coal, electricity and ordinary operating expenses had left, on the average, for each worker employed, with which to pay business overhead, such as interest on borrowed money, depreciation, taxes and dividends, $963. In the North that figure was $1,344 per worker. Also in 1935, we find based upon official records, that the net income of Northern manufacturers was 4.4 per cent of the total sales value of their products, compared with 3.4 per cent for Southern manufacturers. Comparing wages with profits, the South is more generous to labor than the North.

**Employment Of Children**

6. The statement is also made that: "The South leads the nation in the employment of children in both farm and industrial work." This statement is decidedly misleading, for the South does not lead the nation in the employment of children in industrial work. It is a fact that in the New England and Middle Atlantic States eight out of every 1,000 children were employed in manufacturing industries in 1930, while in the South, less than six out of every 1,000 were employed in manufacturing industries. Also, according to the census figures for 1930, which are the same as those quoted in the report, it is a fact that of all the children employed in the New England and Midatlantic states, 41.6 per cent were employed in the factories of those sections, while only 5.4 per cent of all the children employed in the South were confined within the walls of factories. Conversely, 85.1 per cent of all the children employed in the South were in agriculture, employed for seasonal periods in the year, while in the Northern states designated, only 10.7 per cent were thus engaged.

7. A wholly disinterested reader of the report might well be amazed that any kind of industry in the South could continue to exist if it needed to ship its products into Northern markets. The Southern manufacturer is said to have a 39 per cent handicap in reaching those markets as compared with his competitor in the North. And "the Southwestern manufacturer, with a 75 per cent relative disadvantage, is even worse off."

If these were the facts, then the economic problem of the South indeed might be desperate. However, it is not a fact that "the Southeastern manufacturer sending goods across the boundary into this (Northeastern) region is at a relative disadvantage of approximately 39 per cent in the charges which he has to pay as compared with the rates for similar shipments entirely within the Eastern rate territory." Nor is it true that the Southwestern manufacturer has a 75 per cent disadvantage. Both do pay more than the charges within Eastern territory, but how much more requires inquiry into each specific rate adjustment.

It is variously estimated that the general level of Southern rates ranges from 10 per cent to 20 per cent higher than in the North. In the canned goods case, Interstate Commerce Commissioner Lee, dissenting, with the concurrence of Mr. Commissioner Tate, said:

"A more nearly correct relationship . . . would make the Southern rates approximately 16 per cent higher than within the North. It is my considered opinion that the record utterly fails to justify a greater difference in the rates in the two territories."

In the furniture case the commission prescribed third class from the South to the North and second class in the North, representing a handicap of about 8 per cent against the South. In the coke case the Northern producers contended that the coke rates from the South to the North should be 10 per cent higher than within the North, because that seemed to them to express the general difference in other rate cases involving northbound rates. Stove rates are from 15 to 20 per cent higher. These differences are severe enough to represent a distinct advantage to producers in northern territory. The South is justified in seeking to alleviate this existing situation, but it is nothing like as great a handicap as stated in the report.

8. The statement is made that, "... the fabrication plants which use most of the steel were not constructed in the Birmingham area. The fact that these fabrication plants are outside of the South will make it hard for the South now to find a market for its steel, even though the pricing system has been changed."

As a matter of fact, the South has a number of large fabricating plants of national prominence in addition to many smaller plants, which have ample facilities for handling the construction needs of this area, and for expanding into other areas where they can compete profitably. (We are distinguishing between "fabricators" and "manufacturers.")

9. It would also appear from this report that only the South's people need radios, milk, butter, eggs dresses and shoes, yet less money was spent by the WPA in 1937 in 11 Southern states combined than in the single state of Pennsylvania. With only 38 per cent of the population of the South, WPA expenditures in Pennsylvania in 1937 amounted to $214,565,158, as compared with $198,038,507 in these 11 Southern states.

Is Pennsylvania or the South the nation's No. 1 economic problem?

Gadsden, Ala., Times
September 21, 1938

# BASING WELL BEING UPON MONEY PROLONGS DISTRESS OF MILLIONS

THE Works Progress Administration, which seems to have money enough for everything except to pay Southern WPA workers as much as is paid WPA workers elsewhere, has been gathering statistics upon the incomes of the people and these figures are now being used to create further prejudices and to make even more difficult the real task of restoring a condition of well being to the nation.

The statistics, which admittedly are based upon only 300,000 inquiries in a land of nearly 130,000,000 people, appear to show that the incomes of one-third of the people averages only $471 a year—an average, by the way, which the WPA appears determined to maintain in the South, however liberal its pay may be in the North.

But getting back to the statistics. They are absolutely worthless, as are any statistics bearing upon incomes that take account only of money and ignore the factors having to do with food, shelter and other creature comforts.

There are negro farmers in the South who never see as much as $200 in the whole course of a year, but who live better and have more of the comforts of life than the majority of poor persons living in such cities as New York, Philadelphia and Chicago, who have many times $200 a year coming to them.

To base national well being on national income is idle, unless some means can be developed for determining the value of the good things of life that thrifty and energetic persons provide for themselves without money. It again emphasizes the folly of basing human happiness and human well being upon money. It isn't money that makes happiness but an abundance of food, clothing, shelter and the like.

Yet in the face of the fact that money does not meet the problem of providing plenty, the emphasis is continually and persistently placed upon money, and the false and ruinous philosophy that scarcity adds to income is permitted to govern.

The statement that one-third of the families of the nation have to get along on incomes of $471 is political bunk and a dangerous type of bunk. Yet if the good earth were permitted to bring forth its fruits abundantly and men were willing to produce with their hands an abundance of shoes, clothing, and the like, to the end that all might have plenty, even so small an income as $471 would provide essential comforts.

The great problem of the nation today is to provide adequate food, clothing and shelter for all the people in this country and it will not be solved by continually cutting down on the production of things, continually minimizing employment by making things so high that consumers stop buying, and continually making the dollar of the poor buy less than it should.

There isn't any way to provide everyone with all the money that is needed for a comfortable living, but there is a way to provide plenty of things and it is time for action to make things abundant rather than futilly trying to make money abundant.

The people can't eat money but today they could be eating much more in the way of ham, bacon and spare-ribs had those millions of young sows been left to fulfill their natural destiny instead of being destroyed on the altar of a false philosophy which pretends that high prices and scarcity create security.

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# RAPER VIEWS AID TO NEEDY AS NECESSARY

Telegraph
3-5-38

## Georgia Educator Tells Fact Finding Group That Relief Funds Check Riots

## KAHN SCORES LOW WAGES

News
3-5-38

## Jewish Social Service Official Finds Georgia Fast Exhausting Resources

By JOHN E. MINTER JR.

Not so much "government squandering" as "riot insurance" is the view of present federal relief expenditures taken by Dr. Arthur Raper, professor of sociology at Agnes Scott College, Decatur.

On the other hand, Edward Kahn, Atlanta, executive director of the Federation for Jewish Social Service, considers that "practically a revolution already has occurred in Georgia."

The two were principal speakers here last night at the monthly session of the Citizens' Fact Finding Movement co-ordinating committee, composed of state heads of civic organizations sponsoring the enterprise.

Under the general subject of Public Welfare in Georgia, the two authorities presented the philosophical and practical aspects of relief administration in the state. They agreed on one conclusion:

**Low Wages Attacked**

"If we continue low wages in Georgia, we will continue to have low standards of relief."

Mr. Kahn stated the conclusion after several minutes of informal discussion among the two speakers and other delegates which followed completion of Mr. Kahn's formal address.

Georgia's gullies, in the opinion of Dr. Raper, are the result of the belief on the part of Georgia's people that it is "good business to get more from the land than you put into it."

Soil fertility, the sociologist stated, is a "social asset, rather than a marketable commodity," and in our stewardship of the soil we "must not extract compound interest."

Mr. Kahn based on this statement the prediction that "eventually we will burn up all the timber, deplete all the soil, and exhaust every other natural resource, due to the squeezing of those in control in a profit and loss economy."

**Tobacco Road Exist**

"There are Tobacco Roads in Georgia," Dr. Raper observed.

"And these problems existed long before the days of government relief," Mr. Kahn rejoined. "We accepted them and did nothing, but now we cannot shut our eyes to them because some of our people have had for the first time a taste of the decencies of life."

Miss Wilma van Dusseldorp, educational consultant of the State Department of Public Welfare, led the round table discussion which sometimes interrupted the speakers and followed their addresses.

As a practical relief administrator, she asked Dr. Raper for comment on the advisability of giving adequate relief to some and neglecting others when funds are short, rather than spread the amount equally and give inadequate relief to all.

"Under our principle of government," Dr. Raper replied, "I couldn't defend unequal relief.

**Solution Offered**

"The New Deal," Dr. Raper continued, "has not spent much more than enough to avoid serious difficulties in this country.

"The nation which continues to pay for non-creative labor, however," he pointed out, "eventually must go into bankruptcy. But when relief funds are released for dollar-for-dollar returns to the commonwealth, the expenditure is a federal investment, and not a federal waste."

The longtime solution of the problem, as Dr. Raper sees it, is "permanent productive employment given by the government to those not absorbed by private industry."

Otherwise, he believes, we will find ourselves "in as big a mess as Germany."

Continuing the analogy between America's situation and that of European nations, Dr. Kahn said: "We are developing a permanent dependent class in this nation, whether we like it or not."

Georgia and her neighboring states, with their proportionately high birth rate, supply the surplus population of the large Eastern metropolitan areas, Dr. Raper pointed out.

**Miss Wilkins Reports**

"They should see," he said, "the sound policy of spending their taxes to educate and build generally the people of the Southeast, because much of that population will descend on them to be either assets or objects of relief."

Miss Josephine Wilkins, president of the Georgia League of Women Voters, made a report of the six months of existence of the fact-finding movement saying the enterprise had received recognition all over the country.

Newspapers, libraries, colleges, government agencies and private individuals in every section of the nation have asked for summaries of the present accomplishments, she reported.

Dr. Amanda Johnson, president of the Georgia division of the American Association of University Women and member of the faculty of Georgia State College for Women, Milledgeville, presided at the dinner meeting in the Hotel Dempsey.

**Abercrombie Chairman**

The group named W. A. Abercrombie, Athens, representing the Lions club of Georgia, as chairman for the April meeting, which will be held in Atlanta. (The sessions alternate each month between Atlanta and Macon).

Next month's subject will be Georgia's Penal Institutions.

Macon civic leaders who were among those taking part in the round table discussion included:

Stanley A. Elkan, governor, Dr. John B. Clark and C. W. Webb of District 18-C, Lions International; Miss Lucile Johnson, president Macon Pilot club; Mrs. C. C. Hinton, Association of University Women; Miss Mamie Vinson, Business and Professional Women's club; Miss Katharine Carnes, library association; Luther N. Bloodworth, vice president, Macon Exchange club, and Mrs. George Beggs, Macon playground director.

# 70 Colored Social Workers Attend Regional Meet Of Child Welfare League

Approximately seventy colored persons were in attendance at the two-day Southern Regional Conference of the Child Welfare League of America in session March 11-12 at the Biltmore Hotel.

Students of the Atlanta School of Social Work bulged the regular number of city welfare workers Friday when Forrester B. Washington, director, dismissed the institution so that full advantage of the meeting could be gained. The colored registrants were allowed to pay a considerably lower registration fee as an encouraging gesture.

The meeting featured the addresses of noted social work officials from all over the South and discussions. An institute was conducted Wednesday and Thursday with the theme, "Problems of Children in Foster Cure," by Miss Sybil Foster, white, field secretary of the League.

The Child Welfare League, in attempting to improve the social life of the nation, has the following aims: to acquaint members with the adoption laws of the states: to learn present weaknesses and abuses; to determine the function of private child-placing agency in adoptions; to determine functions of maternity homes and adoption nurseries; to determine the function of a state to safeguard adoptions; to investigate interstate placement and traffic in babies; to list minimum essentials in adoption and to tell the story to the public.

No colored persons appeared in the capacity of presiding executive or speaker on the program. It is understood that Forrester B. Washington holds a post in the organization.

Dr. C. C. Carstens is executive director of the League.

Augusta, Ga Herald
March 20, 1938

# Lure of Harlem Lights Obscure in Log Hamlet

MAYFIELD, Ga., March 19 — The gay life and prospects of jobs that send thousands of Southern Negroes each year to Harlem and other populous Northern centers don't appeal to members of the Log Cabin community, a Negro settlement founded 70 years ago by three former slaves.

"Here are people who actually believe not theoretically, but practically, in the fine things that the country has to offer," says Dr. Benjamin F. Hubert, their spokesman.

Dr. Hubert is one of the 12 children Zack and Camilla Hubert reared in the community and sent to college to become educators, preachers and leaders of their race.

**SCHOOLHOUSE FIRST**

Zack Hubert and two brothers, David and Floyd, came to Hancock county from nearby Warren, bought and cleared land to found the community.

Now there are 100 Negro families cultivating 15,000 acres making a good living and enjoying an attractive community life.

One of the first things the pioneers did was to build a school and hire the best teachers they could. No less than 500 of their children and grandchildren have gone to college. More than 100 are away in school now and attendance is almost 100 per cent at the modern, eight-teacher, 11th grade community high school.

Dr. Hubert is president of Georgia State College at Savannah, but he keeps in close touch with his home folks. He helped them establish the Camilla-Zack Country Life Center (named for his parents), a health clinic and a profit-sharing store.

He and friends of both races put up some money. Members of the community furnished materials and labor.

The community center is a log building in a pine grove. Negro farmers meet there to discuss better farming; mothers, to plan better homes, and young people, to sing, dance and enjoy themselves.

Wholesome fun is emphasized, for, says Dr. Hubert, "if boys and girls cannot have a place to assemble and dance in the country, they will dance in Detroit or New York."

The roomy white-painted hea[d]ding in the same pine grove h[as] arge, airy consultation and operati[ng] ooms, bedrooms, physician's of[fice] nd a room for a full-time nurse.

It was by hard work and [fru]ality that members of the Hu[b]mily have been able to acq[uire] ound 3,000 acres of land in [the] ommunity; the Dixons, 1,200, a[nd] ther families from 100 to 1,200 ac[res] ach. Those of the present gene[ra]ion learned a lesson in the depre[s]sion and are now growing mo[re] grain, livestock and foodstuffs an[d] ess cotton. Their farms and hom[es] esemble those of prosperous wh[ite] farmers.

They're planning now to begin c[o]operative selling of their products through the store. They jointly own a threshing machine and expect to buy other heavy machinery for community use.

Dr. Hubert, director of the Association for the Advancement of Negro Country Life, sees the community as an example of what can be done for Negroes throughout the South. Several other communities are adopting similar programs.

# Georgia Conference On Social Work Set For Sunday Opening

MACON, Ga.—(S N S) — Dr Will W. Alexander, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, will be one of the principal speakers at the Georgia Conference on Social Work to be held here April 4, 5 and 6, it was announced Saturday.

Using as his subject, 'The Conservation of Human Relations," Dr. Alexander will tell of the work of the Farm Security Administration. The noted authority on problems of the rural family will be introduced by R. L. Vansant, of Athens.

"Georgia's Welfare Resources' will be the subject of an address by Governor E. D. Rivers on the opening night of the conference. The chief executive who is the first Georgia Governor ever to address a state social work conference will tell of the far-reaching social reforms that have taken place during his administration, including the enlarged health program, and the newly revised penal system.

Governor Rivers will follow Fred K. Hoehler, Executive Director of the American Public Welfare Association, who will use as his subject "On the Broad Front of Public Welfare." Dr. M. V. Ziegler, of the U. S. Health Service, will speak on "Resources for Health" at a special session on public health. He will be introduced by Dr. T. F. Abercromble.

Sanford Bates, Executive Director of the Boys' Club of America, and former U. S. Prison Commissioner, will be the featured speaker at a joint session with the Georgia Probation Officers' Association on the final day of the conference. He will speak on "Development of an Adequate Probation and Parole System for Georgia."

Important state social workers who will be heard during the three-day conference include Miss Louisa Fitzsimons, president, Miss Gay B. Shepperson, Lamar Murdaugh, Miss Mary Dickinson, E. M. Kahn, F. F. Athearn, H. H. Hamrick, J. E. Thrift, Henry Mays, Jr., Miss M. M. Mitchell, Miss Mary Witt, Mrs. Effie Harris, and Dr. J. D. Applewhite.

All interested Georgians, white or colored, are invited to attend the conference and further information may be had from the executive offices, 11 Pryor Street, Atlanta.

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# CENTER FOR NEGROES SOUGHT IN DEKALB

**Group Also Working To Establish Clinic and Mission School.**

A modern community center for negroes in DeKalb county, with a clinic and mission school is the aim of the charitable educational work being carried on each Sunday afternoon by a group of Decatur students.

Begun several years ago, the present mission school is a building badly in need of repairs, but nevertheless the center around which Bible classes are taught to negroes of all ages each week. The first step toward the goal for the center has been obtained in the form of a lot on Atlanta avenue which was bought by donations from various churches in the locality. The present mission school is on Herring street. The lot is only the beginning of what is hoped to be an unusual center for negroes, but $6,000 is needed for the present plans to be carried out.

Decatur residents and church members do their part in the building of the center by donations but the actual teaching of the Bible to the 90 members of the negro class is left to eight college and high school students of Decatur. The mission is interdenominational.

Acting as teachers are Miss Martha Moore and Charles McCain, of the Decatur High school; Miss Sam Olive Griffin, of Decatur; Miss Susie Blackmon, of Anniston, Ala., and Miss Agnes Hardy, of Richmond, Va., all students at Agnes Scott, and Joseph Boyd, of Mississippi; James Boyce, of Dade City, Fla., and Clark Benson, of Wheaton, Ill., all students at the Columbia Theological Seminary. In addition to the student teachers there is Edward Jones, superintendent, and Mrs. Raydie Campbell. Isable Wilson is a colored worker. Each of the student teachers have their own classes.

# State Social Workers Convene In Macon, Ga. In April; Hear Rivers

MACON, Ga.—(S N S)—Governor E. D. Rivers will address the opening session of the 13th Annual Georgia Conference on Social Work, to be held here April 4, 5 and 6, it was announced Saturday by the program committee.

Speaking on the subject "Georgia's Welfare Resources," Governor Rivers will tell of the important social reforms that have taken place during his administration. The first Georgia governor ever to address a social work conference in this state, the chief executive will give first-hand information on the new, enlarged health program, and the revised penal system with its emphasis on probation.

Miss Louise DeB. Fitzsimons of Atlanta, white director of the assistance division of the State Department of Public Welfare and president of the conference, will give her annual report and Mayor Charles Bowden will welcome the visitors in behalf of the city of Macon.

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## *Lure of Harlem Lights Obscure in Log Hamlet*

SCENE IN COMMUNITY HOUSE

(By The (AP) Feature Service)

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"Here are people who actually believe not theoretically, but practically, in the fine things that the country has to offer," says Dr. Benjamin F. Hubert, their spokesman.

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**Schoolhouse First**

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Now there are 100 Negro families cultivating 15,000 acres, making a good living and enjoying an attractive community life.

One of the first things the pioneers did was to build a school and hire

the best teachers they could. No less than 500 of their children and grandchildren have gone to college. More than 100 are away in school now and attendance is almost 100 per cent at the modern, eight-teacher, 11th grade community high school.

Dr. Hubert is president of Georgia State College at Savannah, but he keeps in close touch with his home folks. He helped them establish the Camilla-Zack Country Life center (named for his parents), a health clinic and a profit-sharing store.

He and friends of both races put up some money. Members of the community furnished materials and labor.

The community center is a log building in a pine grove. Negro farmers meet there to discuss better farming; mothers, to plan better homes, and young people, to sing, dance and enjoy themselves.

Wholesome fun is emphasized, for, says Dr. Hubert, "if boys and girls cannot have a place to assemble and dance in the country, they will dance in Detroit or New York."

The roomy, white-painted health building in the same pine grove has large, airy consultation and operating rooms, bedrooms, physician's office and a room for a full-time nurse.

It was by hard work and frugality that members of the Hubert family have been able to acquire around 3,000 acres of land in the community; the Dixons, 1,200, and other families from 100 to 1,200 acres each. Those of the present generation learned a lesson in the depression and are now growing more grain, livestock and foodstuffs and less cotton. Their farms and homes resemble those of prosperous white farmers.

**Plan to Buy Machinery**

They're planning now to begin cooperative selling of their products through the store. They jointly own a threshing machine and expect to buy other heavy machinery for community use.

Dr. Hubert, director of the Association for the Advancement of Negro Country Life, sees the community as an example of what can be done for Negroes throughout the South. Several other communities are adopting similar programs.

**MAGGOTS IN HER EYES,** spiders, ants and flies swarming over her frail body, "Aunt Janey," a Negro woman, was removed from this house to the Macon hospital Saturday. Situated between Third and Broadway, Elm and Edgewood, the place is tucked behind a neat little house and a freshly white-washed brick wall. But about this house there is nothing neat or fresh. If city council decides that unfit housing conditions exist here and asks the mayor to name a housing authority such places as these can be eliminated. (Staff photo by Coke.)

# SLUM CLEARANCE ACTION EXPECTED

## Sub Committee Studying Conditions Will Report to Council Here Tonight

City council tonight will hear a report from a sub-committee studying establishment of a slum clearance project for Macon.

**Alderman Henry Harris, chairman, announced yesterday his committee will have an executive session preceding council meeting to reach some definite decision on the matter. Slum clearance has been under debate here for several weeks.**

Members of Mr. Harris' committee are Mrs. C. C. Harrold, Clarence E. Odom, Harry Stewart and Major J. D. Blair.

Council sessions are always open to the public.

If council decides housing conditions here warrant action, a state law makes it compulsory that the mayor name a housing authority to decide on remedial measures.

**Money Available**

Macon can get a million dollar project, it is understood, provided the city bears administrative costs and makes an annual contribution toward maintaining the project, which expense would be taken care of by the federal government's contributions.

Whether Macon has slums and whether present housing legislation is applicable to this city has been argued at several previous sessions of the council sub-committee.

At an open meeting last week, arguments for and against the proposal were propounded before the group but no decision was reached.

The slum clearance question was brought before the Macon public by the Chamber of Commerce through a mass meeting at which State Treasurer George B. Hamilton spoke.

The chamber late drew criticism from members of the Macon Real Estate Board, when the organization voted against any form of slum clearance.

# *Negress Near Starvation Has Secret Fund of $500*

## 'Aunt' Janey Jenkins' Nephew Asks Judge Stephens to Name Guardian

"Aunt" Janey Jenkins, aged Negress, lay in a vermin-invested bed in a squalid hovel here for days and virtually starved to death—with $500 waiting to be spent, it was learned yesterday.

The frail old Negress was rescued from a two-room Negro house in an alley here last week by Mrs. W. E. McCord, policewoman, after a report had been received by police.

Mrs. McCord said she probably had been there for days with no food or water. Ants and other insects crawled over her withered body, the policewoman said. She was taken from the house and placed in the hospital, apparently destitute and financially helpless.

**Owns Two Houses**

Yesterday a nephew-in-law, Henry Jenkins, filed application in the Bibb court of ordinary to have a guardian appointed for Aunt Janey, and Judge and city attorney Walter C. Stevens, ordinary, discovered in a subsequent investigation that the woman had a bank account containing $511 in the First National Bank and Trust Company here. She also owns two Negro houses, Judge Stevens said.

Jenkins filed the guardianship application at the suggestion of welfare



court to answer the charge of the old woman's property and brought by the Tolliver woman. Consequently, the plaintiff was awarded a default judgment.

**Condition Serious**

The ensuing execution was levied ment of municipal court. Judge officials said, and the two cation on July 1, he said yesterday. es owned by the old woman, one Aunt Janey has been removed to which she occupied, were sold at the Macon hospital in an effort to ic auction. save her life. Hospital attaches said dge Stevens said Jenkins seeks last night her condition was "seri- ave R. L. Anderson, county ous", dian, appointed to take charge

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# CENTER FOR NEGROES SOUGHT IN DEKALB

**Group Also Working To Establish Clinic and Mission School.**

A modern community center for negroes in DeKalb county, with a clinic and mission school is the aim of the charitable educational work being carried on each Sunday afternoon by a group of Decatur students.

Begun several years ago, the present mission school is a building badly in need of repairs, but nevertheless the center around which Bible classes are taught to negroes of all ages each week. The first step toward the goal for the center has been obtained in the form of a lot on Atlanta avenue which was bought by donations from various churches in the locality. The present mission school is on Herring street. The lot is only the beginning of what is hoped to be an unusual center for negroes, but $6,000 is needed for the present plans to be carried out.

Decatur residents and church members do their part in the building of the center by donations but the actual teaching of the Bible to the 90 members of the negro class is left to eight college and high school students of Decatur. The mission is interdenominational.

Acting as teachers are Miss Martha Moore and Charles McCain, of the Decatur High school; Miss Sam Olive Griffin, of Decatur; Miss Susie Blackmon, of Anniston, Ala., and Miss Agnes Hardy, of Richmond, Va., all students at Agnes Scott, and Joseph Boyd, of Mississippi; James Boyce, of Dade City, Fla., and Clark Benson, of Wheaton, Ill., all students at the Columbia Theological Seminary. In addition to the student teachers there is Edward Jones, superintendent, and Mrs. Raydie Campbell. Isable Wilson is a colored worker. Each of the student teachers have their own classes.

# State Social Workers Convene In Macon, Ga. In April; Hear Rivers

MACON, Ga.—(S N S)—Governor E. D. Rivers will address the opening session of the 13th Annual Georgia Conference on Social Work, to be held here April 4, 5 and 6, it was announced Saturday by the program committee.

Speaking on the subject "Georgia's Welfare Resources," Governor Rivers will tell of the important social reforms that have taken place during his administration. The first Georgia governor ever to address a social work conference in this state, the chief executive will give first-hand information on the newly enlarged health program, and the revised penal system with its emphasis on probation.

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Savannah, Ga., Press
July 22, 1938

## Modern Negro Quarters

It is very evident from the preliminary steps taken by City Council to grant the right of acquisition to the Savannah Housing Authority of certain sections of Yamacraw the municipality has made much progress toward the creation of an improved living center for negroes in Savannah. It has been known of course in a sort of general way there had been certain steps taken in this direction, but the developments in council indicate that progress has been far greater than the public generally had supposed.

The city through the authority conferred upon council and the housing authority has just about taken the public into its confidence as to what it is proposed to do. Of course this is in a very general way but the direct municipal legislation seeking to put aside stated locations for this work gives a very clear idea of what is proposed.

We take it the first of the government housing propositions to be undertaken will deal with the problem of comfortable and inexpensive homes for negroes. And we accept the further idea the first of these modern governmen provided homes will be in the center o Yamacraw. The site apparently selected touches Fahm street and streets adjacen to it. The use of these thoroughfares wil permit the erection of a large and moderi living center for colored people in a par of the city already largely occupied by negroes. It will fix Yamacraw as the center of the initial work of this character.

The provision is made also by council it may be noted for the employment o much space for parks and recreation centers. This indicates the city authorities going into the matter of location with the government representatives have concluded to comply with the wishes of the Washington agencies and furnish playground and recreation centers with bathing pools and other features to the negroes who are to occupy these modern and moderate priced quarters. If the preliminary provisions can be interpreted as an indication when the federal money is available the city will be ready to start to work it would seem before a great while the center of Yamacraw is to take on a much changed and thoroughly modern appearance. The negroes living there will be the recipients of comfortable homes at low rental from the hands of a benevolent government.

Federal housing for colored tenants seems to be getting very near.

Mobile, Ala., Register
August 28, 1938

# U. S. To Try Something New In Its War Against Slums

(Editor's note: The present administration's war against slums was opened in Atlanta, Ga., two years ago with completion of the natiton's first slum clearance project. The accomplishments and mistakes of that experiment have been watched by social workers as a guide for the new housing clean-up the federal government is now beginning. How does the record stand to date? What is being done to correct them? John Lear, Associated Press reporter, tells in the following story what he learned there in a study of the problem, and forecasts what is coming next.)

By JOHN LEAR
Associated Press Staff Writer

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 27.—The most advanced attack yet made on the housing problem in the United States is planned in this southern capital.

Atlanta, with the aid of Uncle Sam, is preparing to tear down her slums and rebuild them with decent homes for the people who now live there.

This has not been done before anywhere in the country.

Slums have been razed, but the houses that have gone up in their stead have been too costly for the slum dwellers in the great majority of cases. Higher income families moved into the new buildings, and the slum people moved to other slums.

That has been the chief criticism of the housing pioneering Atlanta already has done with her Techwood homes for whites and her University homes for negroes. Automobiles are parked in the streets of these housing projects while the slum folk live on in squalor.

**Admit Shortcomings**

New Dealers who sponsored these projects admit their shortcomings. But they point out that Techwood and University homes were the first government slum clearance attempts in the nation, and say that weaknesses were, therefore, expected. Now they are ready to remedy the weaknesses and to try to make Atlanta a model housing city.

The "slum rehousing for slum people" probably will get under way within six months, C. F. Palmer, head of the city housing committee, said. He predicts rents in these new homes will go as low as $2.50 per room per month for negroes and $3.50 per room per month for whites. The lowest rental afforded at University homes is $4.36 per room per month, and the lowest at Techwood is $5.52.

The $2.50-$3.50 rent will be low enough to touch all but 2.2 per cent of the white population of Atlanta, and all but 13.1 per cent of the negro population.

**High Subsidy Needed**

This closer approach to the bottom of the economic heap will be possible only through high government subsidy, but many businessmen usually opposed to government spending are in favor of it. Their reason is admittedly selfish. It is this:

Real estate values in the Techwood and University areas have risen since these slums were cleared. As far as six blocks away from the outermost edge of the projects, lots have been sold at prices 150 to 300 per cent higher than pre-slum clearance values.

From a social standpoint, other improvements have appeared since the Atlanta projects were established. To understand them, it is necessary first to understand Atlanta's housing plight.

The business, financial and government center around which the city was built could be compared to an octopus, with tenacles spreading in all directions. Each tenacle was a small creek, draining downward and outward from the center through a winding valley.

In the course of events, the creeks became open sewers, outlets for the wastes of the central area. The land along their banks deteriorated more and more as this condition continued until finally it became the least desirable residential district. By the time the sewer condition was improved, it was too late.

**Slums Rising**

Slums were rising there. They grew toward as well as away from the center of town until today they reach virtually to the steps of the Georgia state capital.

Along two of these valleys lay the districts which now include Techwood and University homes. In each, there was the anomolous situation of a university devoted to enlightenment overlooking the most unenlightened hovels in the city.

Students of Georgia Tech could look out of the college windows and be close enough to count most of the 197 miserable shacks huddled in the valley below them. That was all they could see on 24 acres of negro and poor white habitation.

Thirty-one criminals charged with major offenses, were living there in one 20-day period chosen for a census in 1933.

Nine juvenile delinquents with police records lived there on the day picked by chance.

Twenty-one babies died there before they were a year old in 1931, 1932 and 1933.

Tuberculosis took a toll of 13 in the same three years.

All this misery in the space of a few blocks.

**Chronic Problem**

The area was a chronic problem to police when the PWA began looking for slums to clear, so Atlanta nominated it for destruction. The 279 families—three of them white—were moved away and their homes were torn down. Removal of one wooden prop was all that was necessary to demolish many of the buildings.

On August 1, 1936, the Techwood homes were complete and the 604 new families were moving from substandard homes elsewhere. They all were white families, and their income level was much higher than the people who had been moved out; but they were not admitted if they earned more than $2,397 a year. Their average salary was $21.81 a week. Their rent was $5.52 per room per month for apartments and houses of 3, 4, 5 and 6 rooms.

A complete transition had been made in the neighborhood.

Instead of a tangle of ramshackle shacks amid narrow, twisting alleys, there was an orderly rectangle of trim brick homes on broad, straight streets. Where there had been no sanitation, there now was a bathroom for every family. Unhealthy overcrowding was replaced by life in ample space; only 25 per cent of the area was occupied by the buildings.

**Garden Arises**

What had been a wilderness of weeds or no vegetation at all became a garden. Mimosa, white and pink crepe myrtle, Chinese and American elms, and dogwood trees bloomed. Roses and other flowers took root, and under them, acres of new green grass.

Every apartment had cross ventilation and electric service from lighting to cooking. Floors were of asphalt tile, and everything else was of metal and plaster save the wooden doors between the rooms. In the basement were laundry facilities, and on the lawns were scattered 100 benches to replace the traditional southern front porch. Garage space was available at $3 a month. Who needed a doctor could find him in the medical clinic rooms above the neighborhood stores across the street.

Techwood homes was more than a housing project; it was a new community. Under the guidance of Housing Manager K. S. McAllister the tenants formed their own association to direct their own activities.

A co-operative was formed to make food purchases more economical. Forty members pooled their weekly orders for farm produce, eggs and chickens and saved $100 in three months.

A kindergarten was organized. Adult education groups studied subjects like co-operatives, social medicine, civil law and government, and book reviews. An athletic association sponsored a sports program. A woodworking shop was set up to give vocational training to children over six.

**Results Are Clear**

It is now only two years since Techwood was occupied, but the results are already clear.

There has not been a single case of juvenile delinquency from the area.

There have been no infant deaths, although the birth rate is at least five a month.

There have been no cases of tu-

berculosis; two suspected cases were tested and found negative.

Burglaries, larcenies and assaults have been reduced to virtual zero in contrast to the surrounding area, which, still largely slum, has as heavy a concentration of crime as ever.

Housing Manager McAllister sees three other effects less obvious to the outsider:

(1) Healthier children, due to opportunity to play in the project's outdoor playgrounds;

(2) Establishment of higher standards of housing by tenants in their contacts with real estate men (instead of accepting any apartment or house, as they once did, they now ask what conveniences are offered);

(3) A new sense of obligation in comparison to the lack of responsibility engendered by years of tenant farming and sharecropping. (Sharecroppers are notorious in the South for the way they desert their land and their agreements with the landlords when the crops fail.)

The story of University homes is much the same as the story of Techwood. There was a university—Atlanta—overlooking a slum in a creek valley. There were dilapidated buildings, 218 of them, in a blighted area of 17½ acres. There was poverty, crime, disease and death.

**Built By PWA**

Like Techwood, University homes was built by PWA funds. It can house 675 families, does house 645, with a total population of 2,500. Unlike Techwood, it is all negro.

Although Techwood means much to Atlanta's whites, University homes means more to the city's negroes. Its $4.36 per room per month rents (apartments and houses run 2, 3, 4 and 5 rooms) are too high for the poorest classes, but low enough to assemble an economically underprivileged community.

"A Godsend" is the way the editors of "The Daily World" Atlanta's negro newspaper, described the propect.

**WPA NURSERY SCHOOL TRAINING**

Over 6,000 Negro children of pre-school age are benefitting from the training and care given them in more than 100 nursery schools provided in the education program of the Works Progress Administration Not to be confused with day nurseries, these WPA nursery schools are havens for tots coming from under-privileged families. The pictures shown above show some of these children who share in this federal directed project.

Some 700 workers are employed in WPA nursery schools. Under their guidance the children are taught good habits in an environment which best develops their physical, mental and emotional and social relationships. Leaving no stone unturned in seeing that their little charges get off on a good start toward useful citizenship, the WPA nursery school teachers get the cooperation of the home in studying the needs of the children. They also see that the parents learn the best methods of caring for and training the tots.

Entire communities throughout the nation have learned the value of pre-school training for their children. These youngsters learn to face the world beyond their cradle and cots and miss none of the fun as they learn—(WPP photos)

# NEGROES TO HELP RED CROSS DRIVE

Telegraph

## Race Members Form Auxiliary Unit to Local Chapter, Miss White Says

10-22-38 Macon, Ga.

More than 30 Macon Negroes met last night to organize a Negro auxiliary to the Macon Red Cross chapter. The new group will work with the local chapter, Miss Dorothy White, executive secretary, said.

Mattie Hubbard Jones was elected chairman of the auxiliary; Maude C. Tye, secretary; Bessie Russell, roll call chairman, and Fanny Arnold, first aid chairman.

Junior Red Cross work for Negroes will be sponsored by the Partisan club, with Mazetta Myles, president.

Roy I. Neal, general Red Cross chairman, explained the purpose of the auxiliary. Sixty-five per cent of all work by the organization is for Negroes, he said.

Miss White told of Red Cross work in times of war, disaster, peace, for safety and other services. Russell Scandrett explained the roll call setup of the chapter.

A motion picture, Why Not Live, was shown to the members of the auxiliary. Majority of those present were doctors, preachers and school teachers, Miss White noted.

Meeting of the Negro roll call committee will be held at the Negro branch of the Washington Memorial Library at 6 p.m. Wednesday, the chairman announced.

LaGrange Ga. News
October 24, 1938

# COLORED SECTIONS TO BE CANVASSED

**Workers in Drive to Raise Chest Funds In Colored Areas Named**

Members of the colored population of LaGrange met Sunday afternoon at the First Baptist church, colored, at the invitation of B. A. Lancaster, assistant superintendent of LaGrange public schools, to organize for a canvass of colored residents in the coming Community-Chest campaign for funds, which is being directed by R. C. Swank, Chest campaign chairman.

C. E. Warner, principal of East Depot school, colored, was named chairman of the colored group. He outlined plans for the coming campaign and named workers and assigned territory to each.

**Mr. Lancaster today stated that the colored residents are enthusiastic over the proposed Community-Chest and are both willing and anxious to do their part in raising the necessary amount of money to continue the work of LaGrange's four major social and service agencies.**

The following workers for the colored section were named at the meeting yesterday: Louise Epps and Dorothy Harrison, special groups; C. H. Kelley and Ralph Pruitt, Dunson Mills colored workers; Alice Williams and Rachel Rutledge, Key, Jarbo and Pryor streets; Marian Swindle and Lady Brown, Big Springs road, Watson and Ellison street; Ethel Harrison, Hamilton (Whitesville to Union) and Heard streets; Marie Hunter and Sadie Stinson, Hamilton( from cemetery to dairy); Ruby Perry and Ida Brown, Butler, Cedar, Fendic and Bell streets; Dezzie Dix and Georgia Mae Akers, Wright and Cravat streets; Louise Lynch and Bessie Goodwin, Blake and Brook streets; Mabel K. Hillman and Ralph Pruitt, Fannin, Revis and Mulberry streets; C. E. Warner, Roosevelt line, West end, and Goose Hollow; Theodosia Thomas and Edwina Long, Three Points; B. Rutledge, Bacon street; Laura Holcombe, King and Davis streets; Inez Knight and Geneva Guysie, Hillside colored section; Ruby Weaver and Ethel Woodrick, Union and Ware streets; Lillian Epps and Ernestine Heard, Revis street to end; Mallilou Hinesman and Bessie Snellings Daniel (to Revis) and Dix streets; Heardie Dunson and H. Revis, East Depot (Whitesville to Union); Levi Brown and Sam Smith, Swift and Company Fertilizer section; Allena Lipscomb and V. L. Rice, Edmond street to Big Springs road and McCall street; C. E. Warner and Minnie Gates, East Depot street (from Union to school).

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Atlanta Ga Georgian
February 20, 1938

# Our Taboos May Measure Georgia's Status in 1960

## Population Shifts, Racial Problem, Must Be Studied

By TARLETON COLLIER

**SITTING THE other day in one of the sessions of the Institute of Citizenship at Emory University, your reporter listened to Dr. Howard Odum as he related the prospects of Georgia for 1960.**

Tarleton Collier

Dr. Odum was careful to avoid assumptions. Being the social scientist that he is, as you must know if you are familiar with his monumental work, "Southern Regions of the United States," he had documents to support his predictions.

One of these which he uttered with assurance, without hedging, was that in 20 years or more the negro population of Georgia would be living most largely in the cities and very little of it in the rural places.

He was quite positive in his prediction that in the changing scene of agriculture, there will be less place for the negro. The new order of land tenure and use, increasing mechanization on the farms, the natural development of rural villages, the reduction of cotton acreage and changing customs of cotton production, the smaller supply of landless, casual labor that will be necessary—all these were related as details of evidence to support his conclusion.

For the cities, this will mean larger problems in housing, problems in earning power, problems in contribution to the cities' support by a larger group of people of low economic status, problems in social conditions.

### Our Burden

Dr. Thomas H. Reed, in his report on a survey of local governments here, said that Atlanta to a large extent already is less able to pay for public services than most cities of its size, because of the large proportion of these low-income dwellers.

**"The population of Atlanta is approximately one-third negro and the proportion for Fulton County, including Atlanta, is only slightly less," he said.**

**"The negro's standard of living and his earning and spending capacity are much below those of white population. The median value of homes owned by white persons is $6,026, of homes owned by negroes, $2,553. Median white monthly rentals are $35.25, and median negro rentals $12.69.**

**"A city like Atlanta is carrying a heavy burden because its proletarian population is so far inferior in earning and spending capacity to the lower classes in Northern cities.**

**"In our opinion, Atlantans are less able to pay taxes than the inhabitants of cities of comparable size in the North, just as they are able to pay less for food, clothing, housing and other necessities of life."**

Linking Dr. Odum's prediction with this evidence, it is obvious that the condition of general community poverty and uneven burdens, which Dr. Reed described, will be increased unless we do something about them by improving the lot, the outlook and the economic capacity of the lower stratum.

It follows also that there will be grave social conditions unless we begin now to apply a larger degree of sympathy, intelligence and unselfishness to the problem of race relations.

### Why Be Silent?

The idea has been growing upon me that there is no reason why the subject of race relations should be taboo. We dismiss it generally with prejudice or unconcern. Misunderstanding breeds on misunderstanding.

We are not generally worried by the economic laws of the case, yet they are inexorable, and the depressed condition of negroes drags down the general level, as the Reed report indicates.

The lower group enters into economic competition with the group just above it, dragging down the wage of the latter. There is poor and crowded housing for both, with slum areas sometimes shared jointly by the two. There is a drag upon morals, upon health. Disease knows no color line. Nor does delinquency.

A community or state in which race relations are based upon mutual understanding and intelligent counsel is a better place. There should be frankness about them also, because doubts, hostilities and disaster breed in hidden places.

An example of the stifling taboo which intensifies Atlanta's problem and makes this a poorer city, materially as well as socially occurred about a week ago. A group of representatives of both races was to meet for a conference on education and social security, with application of those services to negroes.

There were to be officials from state departments to explain programs. The meeting was to be held in the Y. M. C. A. auditorium.

Violent protests arose. Sentinels of white supremacy demanded that this group, if it wanted to meet, be sent to a negro school, since it included negroes and its subject concerned negroes. Without appearing on the surface of the community, the matter became a small hidden tempest for a while.

At last, because the taboo seems to prevent anybody from making an issue of a thing like that, the conferees and the Y. M. C. A. acceded quietly (you might say meekly), and the meeting was held on the Atlanta University campus

### Whose Securities

There is a suggestion that the protest went also to the Capitol. At any rate, Mr. Murdaugh never did show up, although in the letter of the social security law there is no distinction between whites and negroes, even though the application is somewhat different.

Situations like this probably would not occur in any other representative Southern city. In most other cities, meetings of the sort are reported by the newspapers in detail, because these is a significance about them. In Atlanta they are hardly mentioned because of the taboo.

They are not aired for the understanding or information of those people who would make this a better place in which to live; they are generally known, a matter of strange triumph, only to those who would keep conditions as they are, socially and economically unsavory.

Every newspaper, at least once a year, ought to write a constructive editorial on race relations. Preachers should preach about them. Last Sunday had been designated as Race Relations Sunday, but there is no record of its being observed as such anywhere in Atlanta.

The meeting was not, as one objector suggested in a letter to me, for propaganda for benefit of the negro race. As a matter of fact, in the South you can't benefit the negro race without helping the whites, nor do a great deal for the white group without helping perforce the black. Communities are made that way.

Far more a matter of concern than a meeting of qualified representatives of whites and negroes to talk over problems in a central place should be the inevitable mingling of the least desirable elements of both races in racketeering, in the "bug," liquor and other vices.

It is reputed that one of the most extensive bootleggers is a negro, serving largely a white clientele. The spectacle of white girls and women daily giving their "bug" numbers to negro writers, partners in crime, was pretty well known in the flush days of that racket.

In overlapping slum districts there are undesirable contacts—vicious contacts, the police will tell you. There is such a thing as equality in misconduct, in lack of privilege, in wretchedness. These are things which the taboos made it difficult to do anything about.

Atlanta, Ga. Journal
August 28, 1938

# Atlanta Housing Experiment Guide for National Program

## Valuable Lessons of Prioneer Projects Here to Be Utilized

**By JOHN LEAR**
**Associated Press Staff Writer**

The most advanced attack yet made on the housing problem in the United States is planned in the capital city of Georgia.

Atlanta, with the aid of Uncle Sam, is preparing to tear down her slums and rebuilt them with decent homes for the people who now live there.

This has not been done before anywhere in the country.

Slums have been razed, but the houses that have gone up in their stead have been too costly for the slum dwellers in the great majority of cases. Higher income families moved into the new buildings, and the slum people moved to other slums.

That has been the chief criticism of the housing pioneering Atlanta already has done with her Techwood Homes for whites and her University Homes for negroes. Automobiles are parked in the streets of these housing projects while the slum folk live on in squalor.

**The present administration's war against slums was opened in Atlanta two years ago with completion of the nation's first slum-clearance project. The accomplishments and mistakes of that experiment have been watched by social workers as a guide for the new housing clean-up the Federal Government is now beginning. How does the record stand to date? What have the project's shortcomings been, and what is being done to correct them? John Lear, Associated Press reporter, tells in this story what he learned here in a study of the problem, and forecasts what is coming next.**

### To Remedy Weakness

New Dealers who sponsored these projects admit their shortcomings, but they point out that Techwood and University homes were the first government slum clearance attempts in the nation, and say that weaknesses were, therefore, expected. Now they are ready to remedy the weaknesses and to try to make Atlanta a model housing city.

The "slum rehousing for slum people" probably will get under way within six months, C. F. Palmer, head of the city housing committee, said. He predicts rents in these new homes will go as low as $2.50 per room per month for negroes and $3.50 per room per month for whites. The lowest rental afforded at University Homes is $4.36 per room per month, and the lowest at Techwood is $5.52.

The $2.50-$3.50 rent will be low enough to touch all but 2.2 per cent of the white population of Atlanta and al but 13.1 per cent of the negro population.

This closer approach to the bottom of the economic heap will be possible only through high government subsidy, but many businessmen usually opposed to government spending are in favor of it. Their reason is admittedly selfish. It is this:

Real estate values in the Techwood and University areas have risen since these slums were cleared. As far as six block away from the outermost edge of the projects, lots have been sold at prices 150 to 300 per cent higher than pre-slump-clearance values.

### Atlanta's Problem

From a social standpoint, other improvements have appeared since the Atlanta projects were established. To understand them, it is necessary first to understand Atlanta's housing plight.

The business, financial and government center around which the city was built could be compared to an octopus, with tentacles spreading in all directions. Each tentacles was a small creek, draining downward and outward from the center through a winding valley.

In the course of events, the creeks became open sewers, outlets for the wastes of the central area. The land along their banks deteriorated more and more as this condition continued until finally it became the least desirable residential district. By the time the sewer condition was improved, it was too late.

Slums were rising there. They grew toward as well as away from the center of town until today they reach virtually to the steps of the Georgia State Capitol.

Along two of these valleys lay the districts which now include Techwood and University Homes. In each, there was the anomolous situation of a university devoted to enlightenment overlooking the most unenlightened hovels in the city.

### Miserable Settlement

Students of Georgia Tech could look out of the college windows and be close enough to count most of the 197 miserable shacks huddled in the valley below them. That was all they could see on 24 acres of negro and poor white habitation.

**Thirty-one criminals, charged with major offenses, were living there in one twenty-day period chosen for a census in 1933.**

**Nine juvenile delinquents with police records lived there one day picked by chance.**

**Twenty-one babies died there before they were a year old in 1931, 1932 and 1933.**

**Tuberculosis took a toll of thirteen there in the same three years.**

**All this misery in the space of a few blocks.**

The area was a chronic problem to the police when the PWA began looking for slums to clear, so Atlanta nominated it for destruction. The 279 families—three of them white—were moved away and their homes were torn down. Removal of one wooden prop was all that was necessary to demolish many of the buildings.

On August 1, 1936, the Techwood Homes were complete and the 604 new families were moving in from sub-standard homes elsewhere. They all were white families, and their income level was much higher than the people who had been moved out; but they were not admitted if they earned more than $2,370 a year. Their average salary was $21.81 a week. Their rent was $5.52 per room per month for apartments and houses of 3, 4, 5 and 6 rooms.

A complete transition had been made in the neighborhood.

Instead of a tangle of ramshackle shacks amid narrow, twisting alleys, there was an orderly rectangle of trim brick homes on broad, straight streets. Where there had been no sanitation, there now was a bathroom for every family. Unhealthy overcrowding was replaced by life in ample space; only 25 per cent of the area was occupied by the buildings.

### Garden Spot Developed

What had been a wilderness of weeds or no vegetation at all became a garden. Mimosa, white and pink crape myrtle, Chinese and American elms and dogwood trees bloomed. Roses and other flowers took root. And under them, acres of new green grass.

Every apartment had cross ventilation and electric service from lighting to cooking. Floors were of asphalt tile, and everything else was of metal and plaster save the wooden doors between the rooms. In the basement were laundry facilities, and on the lawns were scattered 100 benches to replace the traditional southern front porch. Garage space was available at $3 a month. Who needed a doctor could find him in the medical clinic rooms above the neighborhood stores across the street.

Techwood homes was more than a housing project; it was a new community. Under the guidance of Housing Manager K. S. McAlister, the tenants formed their own association to direct their own activities.

A co-operative was formed to make food purchases more economical, forty members pooled their weekly orders for farm produce, eggs and chickens, and saved $100 in three months.

A kindergarten was organized. Adult education groups studied subjects like co-operatives, social medicine, civil law and government and book reviews. An athletic association sponsored a sports program. A woodworking shop was set up to give vocational training to children over 6.

### Amazing Contrast

It is now only two years since Techwood was occupied, but the results already are clear.

**There has not been a single case of juvenile delinquency from the area.**

**There have been no infant deaths, although the birth rate is at least five a month.**

**There have been no cases of tuberculosis; two suspected cases were tested and found negative.**

**Burglaries, larcenies and assaults have been reduced to virtual zero in contrast to the surrounding area, which, still largely slum, has as heavy a concentration of crime as ever.**

Housing Manager McAllister sees three other effects less obvious to the outsider:

1. Healthier children, due to opportunity to play in the project's outdoor playgrounds;

2. Establishment of higher standards of housing by tenants in their contacts with real estate men (instead of accepting any apartment or house, as they once did, they now ask what conveniences are offered);

3. A new sense of obligation in comparison to the lack of responsibility engendered by years of tenant farming and share-cropping. (Sharecroppers are notorious in the south for the way they desert their land and their agreements with the landlords when crops fail).

### University Homes

The story of University Homes is much the same as the story of Techwood. There was a university—Atlanta—overlooking a slum in a creek valley. There were dilapidated buildings, 218 of them, in a blighted area of seventeen and one-half acres. There was poverty, crime, disease and death.

Like Techwood, University Homes was built by PWA funds. It can house 675 families, does house 645, with a total population of 2,500. Unlike Techwood, it is all-negro.

Although Techwood means much to Atlanta's whites, University Homes means more to the city's negroes. Its $4.36 per room per month rents (apartments and houses run 2, 3, 4 and 5 rooms) are too high for the poorest classes, but low enough to assemble an economically underprivileged community.

"A godsend" is the way the editors of 'The Daily World," Atlanta's negro newspaper, described the project.

The results of the project can be measured more concretely in terms of what the negroes who live there have now but did not have before. They have:

A library, whose attendants are trying hard to interest their readers in more serious things than fiction.

A nursery school.

A credit union, the co-operative form of bank, owned and operated by the depositors.

Continued on next card.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938 II. Georgia

Playgrounds—nineteen small ones and one big one.

A growing tendency on the part of the adults to stay home and enjoy their books and radios at night instead of visiting pool rooms and glorified lodge meetings.

**Crime Disappears**

The results can be measured further in the almost complete disappearance of crime and disease in this once notorious area.

More important to the negro problem in general is the project's value as an example in neighboring negro sections of Atlanta. Far more susceptible to the power of suggestion than their white brethren, nearby negroes have painted their houses and rebuilt their fences. Flower boxes have appeared on front porches where no flowers bloomed before. Community meetings in the project have drawn crowds from outside, and an educational influence is spreading rapidly. The negro is beginning to realize that if his condition is to be improved, he must help.

Together, Techwood and University Homes have served to contradict one theory about housing; that when you give better homes to people of one economic level, the homes they leave are occupied by the next lower strata and thus begins a long series of step-ups which ultimately lift the level of the people at the bottom.

This step-up process did not occur in Atlanta, which is one reason why there is so much sentiment for slum clearance that actually will rehouse slum dwellers.

The contention of these social workers is that housing is just as worthy of high government subsidy as is the mail service or public education.

**$9,000,000 Allotted**

To answer that contention, the Federal Housing Administration has allotted $9,000,000 to Atlanta to build new homes under slum people for the first time in America.

The $9,000,000 represents 90 per cent of the cost of the housing projects, an amount the government will pay off itself with annual subsidies over a period of sixty years. This is 45 per cent more than the government's share under the PWA set-up, which built Techwood and University homes, which explains why rents can be lower.

In beginning its new housing experiment, Atlanta will tear down one section of a slum area after moving the families in that area to other homes designated in advance in each instance. When the new buildings are up, another slum section will be torn down and its residents moved into the new buildings. This will proceed section by section until the last set of new buildings is up. Then the people who were moved out originally will be moved back and the operation will be complete.

# Georgia State College Supplies "49th State" At Log Cabin Center

## President B. F. Hubert Gives Marcus Garvey One Better; Colonizes Negroes Right Here

(BY. SOUTHERN NEGRO PRESS)

Log Cabin Center, Ga.—The 49th state has been admitted to the union, and a colonization movement launched that makes Marcus Garvey's back-to-Africa movement look like a pikestaff.

The 49th state is situated ten miles northeast Sparta. It is known as Log Cabin Community Center and might be correctly referred to as the modern methods of colonizacion. The center takes in approximately 15 miles square, and the colored inhabitants own 27,000 acres of land.

The movement is now seven years old. Just how it all started sounds like a story-book yard, but it is not: The headquarters for the Log Cabin Community Center are located on the property of the late Zack Hubert. When Mr. Hubert died seemingly none of his children wanted the 500 acre farm which he left. Each turned to B. F. Hubert, president of Georgia State College at Savannah, they told him he could have the farm for $4,000. To keep it in the family, President Hubert bought it.

Just what to do with the property was a problem. However, Ben Hubert is good at solving problems He decided to build a 6 or 7 room log cabin; a place to spend his weekends and entertain his friends. Men skilled in designing and constructing log cabins were employed and the work started.

One evening President Hubert drove out to see how the men were progressing. The farmers in the community had taken complete possession. Some were sitting on the porch idling and spinning yards, while others were inside playing cards and idnulging in general palaver.

President Hubert stopped,. A new thought halted his strides. Here was a group of farmers unorganized, and without leadership. He decided to turn the Cabin over to them as an exhibit center, a place for the men and their wives to place their farm produce on display.

With a new vision and a new purpose spurring him on, President Hubert started a gigantic building program. He built a health center, with clinic and an operating room where regular clinics can be held and are being conducted by leading coored dotors from the various cities of the state.

Then he built the "White House" where all of the business of State is transacted. Stephen McGee, an intelligent and wealthy farmer, was elected president of the new State.

**More Bcildings**

Continuing his buiding program, President Hubert built 2 or 3 other cabins, swimming pool, and a store which is operated on a cooperation basis. When he announced the intention to erect a community store many of the old residents shook their heads with the general admonition that the white folk would burn it down. B. F. Hubert smiled, said nothing, but built a solid stone structure. Each resident in the community is given a ticket with each purchase. At the end of the year profits are divided.

In Handcock County where the Log Cabin Community Center is located there are 754,000 Negroes what he is doing at the center is trying to show the Negroes the great possibility on a small scale; but he says, the ultimate attainment can only be reached through practical education and training.

## *Negro Red Cross Auxiliary Planned*

The Macon-Bibb county Red Cross chapter will organize a Negro auxiliary in a meeting at headquarters at 7 p.m. today.

Mattie Hubbard Jones is head of the Negro division and other officers and chairmen will be selected.

Among the speakers will be Roy I. Neal, general chairman of the local chapter, and Miss Dorothy White, executive secretary.

Macon Ga. Telegraph
October 9, 1938

## CHEST CAMPAIGN TO ADD NEGROES

### Drive Organization to Be Rounded Out Tomorrow With More Solicitors

Final step in organization of the Community Chest campaign will be completed when a Negro division is formed tomorrow.

A number of leading Negro citizens will meet at the Community Chest headquarters, 410 Bibb building, at 5 p.m. tomorrow and will enlist other helpers to solicit Negro business houses and theaters.

Campaigning by the group will begin Tuesday, H. M. Thayer, executive director of the drive, stated yesterday afternoon.

"Reports from our workers and calls at our office indicate that the organization is functioning well," Mr. Thayer said.

First report meeting will be held for all workers in the drive at 1 p.m. Monday at the Hotel Dempsey. Other meetings for workers will be held at that time each day through Friday.

The Georgia State Employment office is the first organization to report a pledge exceeding its quota and has been given a gold star placard to be displayed in the office window. The Boy Scout office also has pledged above its amount.

Today has been designated as Community Chest day in Macon churches. Announcements concerning the campaign will be made in churches either by the pastors or a speaker from the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

President Roosevelt will ask the support of American citizens for Community Chest projects when he speaks over the three major networks next Friday. The program will be broadcast from 10 to 10:30 p.m.

Macon Ga. Telegraph
October 22, 1938

## NEGROES TO HELP RED CROSS DRIVE

### Race Members Form Auxiliary Unit to Local Chapter, Miss White Says

More than 30 Macon Negroes met last night to organize a Negro auxiliary to the Macon Red Cross chapter. The new group will work with the local chapter, Miss Dorothy White, executive secretary, said.

Mattie Hubbard Jones was elected chairman of the auxiliary; Maude C. Tye, secretary; Bessie Russell, roll call chairman, and Fanny Arnold, first aid chairman.

Junior Red Cross work for Negroes will be sponsored by the Partisan club, with Mazetta Myles, president.

Roy I. Neal, general Red Cross chairman, explained the purpose of the auxiliary. Sixty-five per cent of all work by the organization is for Negroes, he said.

Miss White told of Red Cross work in times of war, disaster, peace, for safety and other services. Russell

Scandrett explained the roll call set-up of the chapter.

A motion picture, Why Not Live, was shown to the members of the auxiliary. Majority of those present were doctors, preachers and school teachers, Miss White noted.

Meeting of the Negro roll call committee will be held at the Negro branch of the Washington Memorial Library at 6 p.m. Wednesday, the chairman announced.

LaGrange, Ga. News
October 22, 1938

# COLORED PEOPLE TO AID CHEST DRIVE

### Meeting Called for Sunday Afternoon to Map Canvass Plans

Plans for a concentrated drive in the colored sections of LaGrange in the interest of the newly organized Community Chest will be formulated at a meeting at the First Baptist church, colored, Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, it was announced today.

The drive will be in conjunction with the house-to-house canvass planned for Sunday, October 30, which is expected to cover every home, both white and colored, in LaGrange seeking contributions to the upkeep of four LaGrange social agencies.

**Under the direction of B. A. Lancaster, assistant superintendent of LaGrange's school system, the colored citizens of the city are being organized to take an active part in the drive. One meeting has already been held and tomorrow's meeting is for the purpose of making final plans for the concentrated soliciting campaign.**

All interested colored citizens of the city have been urged to be present at the meeting. Taking an active part in the formation of the drive are the following colored citizens:

Dr. B. T. Woods, Dr. J. H Ziegler, Mrs. Inez Kight, Mrs Sallie Bird, A. B. Johnson, H. D Dunson, John Moore, J. W. Jackson, T. W. Mackey, B. T. Holifield, L. H. Brown, Sr., Mrs. Estella Hogg, Mrs. D. K. Harrison, W. R. Hood, Charlie Epps, Mrs. Nannie Cummings, Mrs. Mattie Rutledge, S. W. Lakes and all colored ministers and teachers of the city.

LaGrange, Ga. News
November 1, 1938

## Colored Residents Help Chest Drive

Colored residents of LaGrange joined with white citizens in Sunday's house-to-house canvass to give added momentum to the city's first annual Community Chest drive, it was revealed today.

Colored residents of the city gave $119.94 in cash and pledged $50 to the Chest, B. A. Lancaster, who was in charge of the drive, stated. All school teachers of the city system—some 31 in number—made donations to the Chest. Their donations totaled $37.30.

Savannah, Ga. News
December 3, 1938

# HOUSING CONTRACT IS EXECUTED HERE

### Authority Expects $800,000 Check Soon

Opening the way for the actual beginning of the slum clearance project in Savannah, the first loan contract between the Savannah Housing Authority and the United States Housing Authority was executed yesterday.

Fred Wessels, chairman of the local authority, and W. Horace Stillwell executive secretary, signed the contract in the presence of Mayor Robert M. Hitch and other members of the authority. The first loan will be for $800,000, and it is expected that a check for that amount will be forwarded immediately.

With the receipt of the first installment of the $2,700,000 to be provided by the federal government in the $3,000,000 slum clearance project here, it is expected that the local authority will move to acquire the property.

The first project, which is for colored people, will be constructd on 26 acres in a tract bounded on the north by Bay street; east by Ferrill street; south by Richard street, and west by West street. It is two blocks deep from Bay to Richard and five blocks wide from Ferrill to West streets. Ferril street touches Bay Extension about a thousand yards west of the viaduct.

The property now includes one filling station and a number of dwellings, most of them quite old. Options have been obtained on 95 per cent of the area.

The only building to be left standing in the area is the West Savannah School for colored. The new housing units to be erected under the program will range in size from three to five and a half rooms. From two to six family units will be under one roof, and will be one and two stories in height.

Attending the conference were Mr. Wesels, the Mayor, Mr. Stillwell, Herbert L. Kayton, W. Hugh Stephens and Joseph F. Griffin, members of the authority. D. T. Simpson, vice chairman, was out of the city.

# 4 Projects To Clear Congestion

## Slum Areas Of Both Groups To Be Abolished

A gigantic building program was being mapped here Thursday following announcement of a $14,253,000 low-cost housing allocation for Atlanta.

Presidential approval of a $11,361,000 loan to the Atlanta Housing Authority definitely assured construction of four slum clearance projects here at a cost of approximately $15,000,000.

The city's share of $1,429,000 and an additional supplemet of $1,163,000 to be provided by the Federal Housing Authority will bring the total to more than $14,000,000.

### PLANS OUTLINED

C. F. Palmer, chairman of the Atlanta Housing Authority, has outlined plans for making the city "the slum clearance laboratory of the western hemisphere."

The authority has been working toward this goal for months, and stated Thursday night that actual construction on the projects will be started as soon as practicable.

A total of 2,438 dwelling units will be built at a cost of about $2,783 a unit. It was pointed out that the local housing authority plans spending the money about equally for colored and white clearance projects in the congested centers.

### 11,193 FAMILIES IN SLUMS

A recent survey made here showed a total of 11,193 colored families in the slum sections, with another 2,120 families in sub-standard homes throughout the city. The survey revealed that there are 5,566 white families living in slum areas, and 2,121 white families in scattered sub-standard homes.

In expressing satisfatcion over the federal loan, Chairman Palmer said:

"With the approximately $6,000,000 already expended in erection of the Techwood and University low cost housing projectes, and the additional $14,253,000, Atlanta already has available more than $20,000,000 in its effort to elevate living conditions, eliminate slums and provide comfortable and decent quarters for its low bracket income citizens."

### SLUM CLEARANCE LABORATORY

"It is the objective of the Atlanta Housing Authority to make Atlanta the slum clearance laboratory of the entire western hemisphere, and the allocation made available to us today by President Roosevelt and Nathan Straus, administrator of the United States Housing Authority, will go a long way to give us the start we need.

"Atlanta is the logical leader in this field. We should avail ourselves of every opportunity to clear the deadwood out of our blighted areas. This $14,000,000 will revitalize business, will convert blighted territories into happy and productive areas and will do more to keep Atlanta moving at the head of the procession of progress and prosperity than any other one thing that has happened here in a long time.

### DEPENDENT ON CITIZENS

"The success of our efforts to make Atlanta a national testing ground will depend largely on the cooperation of our citizens. The matter rests in their hands. If they are cooperative, we can make other improvements even in addition to the ones already authorized. If they are not cooperative, I doubt that we will have the success to which this movement is entitled.

"We do not propose to depress prices of real estate. Neither do we propose to buy properties on an inflated real estate market. We are prepared to pay a fair price for properties, but if there is any attempt to hold up the authority, we shall be forced to select other sites.

"There are nine badly blighted areas in Atlanta, and we have four projects on which we can begin work probably in the early spring."

Atlanta, Ga. Georgian
December 8, 1938

# 2,438 Model Homes To Replace Slums

**Machinery was set in motion in Atlanta Thursday for launching a $14,253,000 low-rent housing program here with approval in Washington by President Roosevelt of a loan contract totaling $11,661,000.**

This sum, far in excess of the nine million dollars formerly ear-marked for the city, will provide for construction of approximately 2,438 dwelling units, for whites and negroes.

Total cost of the four contemplated projects here, according to C. F. Palmer, chairman of the Atlanta Housing Authority, including land, demolition of existing buildings and engineering fees, will be $14,253,000.

## *Average Cost $2,783*

Average cost of the Atlanta dwelling units will be $2,783, a figure considerably below the national average of $3,100 which has been set on loan contracts previously approved by the United States Housing Authority.

While start of work is set for early spring, the location of the four projects and the time work will start on each rests almost entirely with persons owning property in the areas now under consideration, Mr. Palmer said.

In a statement issued Thursday by the local authority, it was pointed out that the sites finally selected will be determined largely by ability of the authority to purchase advantageously at several locations which have been studied.

**"The reasonableness of the prices asked by the owners will largely determine ultimate locations of the projects," the statement said.**

## *Low Rentals Assured*

The statement also set out that added to the $11,661,000 will be a supplemental loan through the U. S. Housing Authority of $1,163,000, plus the local participation fund of $1,429,000, which makes a total of $14,253,000 for the immediate attack upon Atlanta's housing problem. The local participation, the statement set out, has already been arranged.

Rental figures for the Atlanta projects have not yet been established, but they will be within reach of low-income families now living in sub-standard houses. Housing Administrator Nathan Straus said in Washington.

Figures supplied the national authority by the local officials show a compelling need for decent houses for low income groups here—needs which the Techwood and University homes have not satisfied. Even the present program, Mr. Palmer informed Washington authorities, will fall short of providing quarters for 21,000 families whom, it is estimated, are forced to live in sub-standard dwellings.

A survey made by the Atlanta authority revealed there are 5,566 white families forced to live in Atlanta's slum areas, and another 2,121 white families scattered in sub-standard houses throughout other sections of the city.

Negro families living in Atlanta slum areas, according to the survey, total 11,193, while an additional 2,120 negro families are scattered throughout the city in insanitary dwellings.

**WAR ON SLUMS**

Administrator Strauss pointed out in Washington that for every dwelling unit built in Atlanta, regardless of location, a slum dwelling must be demolished.

Administrator Strauss pointed out cost of the project not covered by the federal loan must be raised through sales of bonds to private investors.

The U. S. Housing Authority, he said, regard sthese bonds as gilt-edge investments since the loan contract carries a guarantee by the government to pay an annual subsidy amounting to about three and a half per cent of the total cost.

This subsidy will be pooled with the rentals collected and used first to pay interest on the federal loan; second, to pay interest on the local bonds; third, to retire the local bonds—in about 15 years, it is estimated—and last, to repay the federal loan over a 60-year period.

**TAX EXEMPTIONS**

The Atlanta authority will also pay an annual subsidy in the form of tax exemptions, requiring no cash outlay.

In Washington nearly 70 million dollars was earmarked Thursday by the U. S. Housing Authority for low-cost housing and slum clearance in 42 cities scattered throughout the nation.

After announcing the allotments Administrator Nathan Straus declared:

**"Now we're broke."**

The earmarkings used up the ast of 800 million dollars which ad been voted to the Housing uthority by Congress and pre-ented the possibility further funds or slum clearance will be asked hen the new Congress convenes n January.

Of the new earmarkings, $23,-00,000 was set aside for local housing authorities in 15 cities which had not previously participated in the federal program. The remaining $46,500,000 was added to other funds allotted 27 cities.

**SOUTHERN PROJECTS**

Earmarking for the 15 just joining the slum-clearance movemen included: West Palm Beach, Fla $750,000; Meridian, Miss., $1, 200,000; Greenville, S. C., $800,00(

Additional earmarkings for 2 cities already participating in th program included: Jacksonville Fla., $2,000,000; Tampa, Fla., $1, 500,000; Athens, Ga., $300,000 Augusta, Ga., $1,000,000; Columbus, Ga., $1,000,000; Macon, Ga $500,000; Savannah, $1,000,000 Raleigh, N. C., $800,000; Wilmington, N. C., $600,000; Cincinnat $3,000,000; Columbus, Ohio, $2, 000,000; Chattanooga, Tenn $500,000; Knoxville, Tenn., $1,000, 000; Memphis, Tenn., $1,000,000.

Macon, Ga. News
October 20, 1938

## *Negroes to Perfect Red Cross Auxiliary*

Organization of a Negro auxiliary to the Macon Chapter American Red Cross will be perfected at 7 o'clock tomorrow night in the chapter headquarters, 218 Second street.

Announcements of the meeting were sent out jointly by the chapter office and by Nattie Hubbard Jones, leader of the division. Officers and chairmen of service committees will be selected.

Among the speakers will be Roy I. Neal, chapter chairman who will speak on the objectives; Miss Dorothy White, speaking of services and the roll call.

Bainbridge, Ga., Post Searchlight
December 22, 1938

## Lions Have Christmas Tree For Needy Negro Children

On Monday evening, December 19 the Bainbridge Lions Club had a very beautiful Christmas tree at the Hutto High School Auditorium for over 200 underprivileged negro children. The beautifully decorated Christmas tree was placed on the stage and Santa Clause was there to present a package of fruit and toys to each child.

The program was opened with the entire student body singing Christmas carols. Short talks were made by Lion E. G. Elcan, Superintendent of Schools, and President W. D. McCord. Later in the evening Addie B. Hutto expressed her appreciation to the Lions Club for their kindness shown to the underprivileged negro children of our community.

# Ask for ... Supervisors In Atlanta, Ga., District

## Worker's Alliance Finds Average Pay Scale Too Low

ATLANTA, Ga. (ANP) —The Worker's Alliance of Atlanta contended for Negro foremen and supervisors in its report of working conditions among Negro W. P. A. workers in Georgia. The Atlanta union's report was compiled to be submitted to the National Labor Conference which convened in Washington December 15-17.

The cost of living per month for a family of five is $138.50, that of a single man $52.40 and the cost of a single woman $59.15, the report showed, yet WPA workers are paid only $40.20 per month.

Out of their meager pay, the union declared, workers pay an average minimum of 20 cents per day for transportation and due to the inclemency of the weather at this season, outdoor workers often report as many as three times some weeks for work on days when the weather is too bad.

RENT, FOOD, CLOTHINHG

Working on damp, chilly grounds, in many instances not allowed to have fire during working hours, the report contends that their wage will not permit them to be adequately clad against the rigors of winter. This condition undermines their health.

A family of five, all dependent upon the wage of one parent, which is $40.20 per month, must live on an average of $2.01 per person for food, clothing, shelter and rent.

Negroes are laid-off in large groups and told that the job has been completed or that there is no more money. This is not true, as was pointed out, because other workers who are not laid off continue to work, while the other group is left to starve.

The "lay-off" system is usually manipulated by the general timekeeper. He and the foreman, pick out the ones to be discharged (without consultation), the report said, and added:

"We are contending for Negro foremen, time keepers, and supervisors and more indoor projects for Negro women during the winter months."

Summing up the political situation the report reads in part:

"We find 85 per cent of the workers are for the New Deal and its program, and that workers who heretofore played no part in politics are planning. . . a united front to elect liberal, progressive candidates to represent them n 1940."

Savannah, Ga. Times
December 16, 1938

# $3,000,000 Set Aside To Build 500 Negro Houses

President Roosevelt has approved a contract loan totalling $2,055,000 for the Savannah Low Rent and Slum Clearance project according to W. Horace Stillwell, executive secretary of the Savannah Housing Authority, who said that this money would be used to build 501 houses at an average cost of $2,501.00 each which are to be occupied by negroes.

The $2,055,000 is a part of the $2,700,000 originally requested from the Federal government which is to be matched by the city with a sum of $300,000 making the total of 3,000,000 which is to be used entirely as a slum clearance project for the negroes.

A portion of the funds amounting to $727,000 was approved December 9. This portion of the funds will be used for the housing construction on the ten blocks from the south side on Bay street viaduct. The work is expected to begin within sixty days.

Senator Richard B. Russell notified Mayor Hitch of the approval of the new contract funds.

The $2,055,000 loan granted Savannah will be used for the construction of 501 dwelling units at an average cost of $2,501.

The new loan grant to Savannah was made along with one to Columbus for $1,860,000 for use in building 450 dwelling units at an average cost of $2,578.

Bainbridge, Ga., Post Searchlight
December 22, 1938

## Lions Club Presents Christmas Tree To Negro Children

On last Monday evening at eight o'clock, the Lions Club of this city, led by their distinguished President Dr. W. D. McCord, were host to the negro children and citizens at the Hutto High School Auditorium, in the presentation of a Christmas tree, the occasion was auspicious in every detail.

It was plainly evident that this body of civic minded citizens had spared no pains in assuring the success of this affair. It was complete in every detail—a beautiful tree, decorated and respendent in iis lighting fixtures. The gifts were artistically arranged, the Christmas bags were filled with fruits, candes and toys. It was the expressed wish of the Lions that at least two hundred children be served by Santa Claus. This was done and they provided for more than that.

To those who were present, they shall never forget the smiles of delight and pleasure that lighted up the faces of the young and old as Santa Claus who was so efficiently depicted by our genial and gracious Mr. Clark Gurley, presented the gifts. It was a scene that will long be remembered.

Supt. Elcan of our city schools stated that it was the original idea of Mr. John Gragg, but we know that it was the united actions and fine spirit of cooperation of all the members that made Mr. Gragg's idea such a success.

This act has a far more significant reaction to us as negroes. It unmistakably evinces the fact that we as a race are appreciated by our white friends and that they have our welfare and development in consideration at all times and are desirious of giving us their loyal support in all matters pertaining to our advancement. Such an act has given self respect to your negro citizenry and causes them to lift up their heads and feel an integral part of this our beloved city.

No organization knows better than the Lions International, the marvelous change of thought in the ideas and ideals of the American people. No one is more kindly disposed to the cause of the negro than the southern white man. No one more sympathetic and keenly appreciative of the struggles and handicaps of a race manumitted from slavery 75 years ago, and which handicaps have cemented into the hearts and minds of every negro to develop into a citizen of the first calibre, to grasp each opportunity in making of himself a constructive unit in his respective communty and to make his contribution whereever he lives for the best interest of all people regardless of color, condition or kind. It is the sincere wish of the negroes that the Lions will come again, for we know their actions are symbolic of the attitude and spirit of all of the white citizenry of our fair city and our beloved Banbridge.

"THE NEGRO CITIZENRY OF BAINBRIDGE."

By DR. MARCUS B. HUTTO.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Illinois.

# VIEWS AND REVIEWS

### NEGROES LIVE IN CHICAGO

**By Horace B. Clayton**
**(In "The Beacon")**

The housing shortage in the Negro community of Chicago is no new phenomenon. At no time has the community had an area sufficient to accommodate the persons who were forced to live there. As a result, available housing facilities have failed to keep pace with the rapid increase in population. In the 34-year period, 1900 to 1934, the Negro population increased from 30,000 to 236,000.

During this period the community has expanded southward from a small settlement near the outskirts of the loop district to Seventy-first street and has thus extended its boundaries approximately seven and one-half miles.

Between Cottage Grove and Wentworth avenues, Twelfth and Seventy-first streets are to be found nearly 200,000 persons. The entire movement of the community southward has been attended with a great deal of friction and the Negro population has had literally to fight for the space which it occupies.

"The Negro in Chicago," a survey of Race Relations, which was made after the riot in 1920, reported that in 1917 only one out of every 13 applications for houses made by the Negro migrants who were coming to the city could be filled. The problem of overcrowding, the doubling-up of families, the keeping of lodgers and boarders, which have resulted in high juvenile delinquency, adult crime, death and infant mortality rates, consequently have become chronic in the community. The housing shortage in the Negro community in 1928, just before the depression, was much more serious than is the present situation in other parts of the city.

The process of concentrating Negroes in segregated areas has been continuous since 1910. In that year 24 per cent of the total Negro population lived in areas in which 95 per cent of the people were white. In 1934, however, only three per cent of the total Negro population lived in such areas. In 1910 the area with the highest concentration of Negroes was one in which the Negro population was between 60 and 65 per cent of the total. In 1934 however, 87 per cent of the Negroes lived in areas which were over 7( per cent Negro in population and 6( per cent in areas which were between 99 per cent Negro.

Negroes cannot live outside of the segregated areas, which have been created by the antagonism of real estate interests. The result is that as the Negro population has been increasing, the number of Negro families in the area has far exceeded the number of dwelling units. A conservative estimate would be that there are housing facilities for approximately 150 000 persons while there are over 200,000 to be housed. This means that in addition to the normal competition for dwellings which would be expected in any community, there is an additional 50,000 persons bidding for homes. Two results have followed: first, all available housing units, regardless of their condition, are used; and, second, with the demand for housing exceeding the supply, the rent in the Negro area has been driven to an abnormal height.

In spite of the high rents, however, property values have depreciated in the community. The areas which the Negroes are able to invade are usually in the first stages of deterioration. Most of the property is held by absentee landlords, (about five per cent in the South side area is owned by the occupants). These absentee landlords know that their property will be rented regardless of its condition; as a result little or no attempt is made to repair or improve it. The over-use of the buildings caused by the doubling up of families, combined with the refusal of the absentee landlords to repair or maintain the property, and their failure to exercise proper tenant selection have been prime factors in the deterioration of property values in the community.

## OUR HOUSING CRISIS

**The present housing crisis is the result of 34 years of cumulative criminal negligence of the City of Chicago to make adequate provisions for its black population. The Chicago Defender has been decrying for more than two decades the evil of black belts with the attendant hardships on a growing community. While rehabilitation, new structures with improved, modern facilities, were going on almost continuously to keep pace with the growth of the white population, the blacks were left to live in substandard dwellings, in squalor and filth. As Horace Cayton, chairman of the citizens' housing committee, ably points out in a recent article in the new liberal magazine, The Beacon: "In the area north of Thirty-ninth street much of the property is held for speculation. A careful check has not revealed a single instance where any amount of capital has gone into the creation of new living units since the depression.**

"On the other hand, a number of buildings have been torn down or allowed to fall into decay. This has often been done to avoid taxation as property values are high, and the rentals have not compensated the owners for the maintenance of the buildings. It was found in one block that since 1928 available living units (in this block) had decreased twenty per cent. Deterioration of this area has had two effects: first it has decreased the already limited supply of the houses in the community; and, second, it has forced large numbers of Negroes who resided north of Thirty-ninth street southward, overtaxing the already limited facilities of the southern section."

Despite the pleas and repeated representations that have been made to local housing authorities, drawing their attention to the seriousness of the situation, there is as yet no palpable evidence of an honest effort to relieve this appalling condition. The use of a dozen men on the Thirty-ninth street "project" for the removal of twenty tons of bricks at the rate of two bricks per man, is a conspiracy to delay rather than hasten construction of the "South Parkway Garden." If the money is available, as announced, and the formalities or technicalities which, they say, held up the "project" have been either fulfilled or done away with, why in the name of Jehovah is this delay when we are confronted with an unparallelled emergency?

What is needed now to batter down apathy and opposition is a unification of various groups and organizations working in the interest of the south side community and looking toward immediate relief of the acute housing situation. Such a mobilization, to be effective and impressive, should be all inclusive. That is to say, that no organization, irrespective of its political, social or religious creed should be left out. In other words mass pressure, through the formation of a popular front for the integration of means and instruments for bringing immediate and permanent solution to the vexing housing problem is the slogan of the hour.

The present business recession, lay-offs, high prices and high rents are accentuating an already grave issue, and the crisis in the Chicago Relief Administration further intensifies our miserable condition. These factors bring our people face to face with a very acute situation. Action is necessary, for this means the life or death of our people. We must be undivided. But, it must be remembered that the promotion of a program of unification requires honesty sincerity of purpose and people who are willing to stand squarely behind a constructive program without equivocation.

# JONES IS PLACED ON HULL HOUSE STAFF

CHICAGO, Mar. 17—(ANP)—Dewey R. Jones, former assistant of Adviser on Negro Affairs in the Department of Interior at Washington, has resigned to become attached to the staff of Hull House in Chicago. He follows his chief from the department, Dr. Robert C. Weaver having resigned several weeks ago to become adviser to the Housing Authority Administrator.

Hull House, the famous social settlement center on Chicago's near west side, has never before had a colored attache. The character of the surrounding population has changed, and there are now many Negroes living in the neighborhood mixed in with Mexicans, Italians, and Greeks. Mr. Jones' task, it is understood, will be to work out a program for these low income groups, particularly the Negroes who have not been especially served by Hull House before. The program will include educational and recreational activities, and it is hoped that some way will be found, it is said, to combat the growing racial antagonisms and friction which is manifest in the area.

Miss Charlotte Carr, elected as successor to Jane Addams as Head Resident of Hull House, is responsible for this new program which brings Mr. Jones to the center. The Rosenwald Fund is paying his salary and sharing in the development of the program which was instituted after a survey and proposal made by Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones and his wife, Faith Jones, one of Chicago's most talented social workers, are to take up residence in Hull House, another new departure, the first time Negroes have lived there.

# Select Families For Chicago Housing Unit

Although the applications of over 2,000 families for apartments in Chicago's three great low cost housing projects have been approved by the Chicago Housing Authority, it was not until this week that the requests of any Race families were granted.

This week according to Miss Elizabeth Wood, executive secretary of the authority, three Race families were selected as tenants for the Jane Addams homes on West Roosevelt Road. The applications of about 25 other Race families, she said, will probably be approved shortly.

Those whose applications have been approved so far are Mr. and Mrs. Clinton Lee, of 5714 Prairie avenue, who have two children: Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, of 2347 Maypole avenue, who have two children, and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bolden, of 1423 West Hastings street who have one child.

According to notices received by these families, they are to select their apartments Saturday and be ready to move into the new homes early next week. They received their notices of acceptance Monday.

Selected as typical of the other three, the Chicago Defender sent a reporter to interview Mrs. Lee. She was found to be living in a small basement apartment at 5714 Prairie avenue. Mrs. Lee was in the midst of packing her belongings preparatory to moving when the reporter arrived.

Mr. Lee, who is employed by the International Furniture company, made application for a four-room apartment, December 27, 1937, Mrs. Lee said. "You can't imagine how surprised we were when we learned that our application had been accepted."

Flanked by her two little daughters, Joyce, 4, and Vera, 19 months, she explained that she has been living at her present address for almost three of the five years she has been married.

**Good For Children**

Her husband, who was not at home, is a native of Elizabeth, Miss., and has been a resident of this city since 1927. Mrs. Lee, though born in Pine Bluff, Ark., has spent practically all of her life in Chicago.

She and her husband plan to visit the Jane Addams homes Saturday to select an apartment. Mrs. Lee was overjoyed at having been selected because of the children.

The well-lighted and ventilated rooms in the federal project, the recreation facilities provided and the general cheerfulness of the surroundings, she feels will have an important bearing on the development of the little girls into healthy young women and respectable citizens.

Mrs. Lee, however, was surprised to learn that so many members of the Race had applied and so few accepted to date. She regarded herself as being extremely fortunate, when informed that some of those who made application almost two years ago, have not as yet been accepted.

## Garrotted!

THAT the unnecessary delay in the construction of the South Parkway Gardens housing project is a well engineered plan to help white landlords who own most of the rental property on the southside, can hardly be denied by any well informed person. And whether or not we are a bit audacious in making this suggestion, or whether we may rightfully be accused of unrighteous agitation, can best be determined by comparing the treatment the southside citizens have received in the matter of the construction of low-cost housing projects, with that which has been accorded citizens in other sections of our great city. There is no one person, either in authority, or otherwise, who can point out any legal reason for this long delay in providing our section with the much-needed relief in the housing situation.

But, when you consider that most, if not all, of the opposition to the erection of the South Parkway Gardens has been, and still is, if reports current are reliable, engineered, fostered and kept alive by white property owners, there will be no need for you to rack your brain in order to discover the true cause for the unnecessary delay. The whites, like leeches, have lived off the exorbitant incomes they have been able to extort from Negroes renting their properties for so long a time, and at such great ease, that they will not allow a change without a struggle. The truth is, therefore, that as citizens, and in the matter of housing, we are garroted. We are the great sacrificial offering for the comfort, the sustenance and the enrichment of a group so well schooled in the practice of putting dollars before humaneness, and wealth before humanity, that they suffer absolutely no qualms of conscience over the pitiable plight in which they have placed us.

Garroted! Yes, and why? True, we lack the wealth, and therefore the influence that goes with it, to fight against this reprehensible circumscribing of our liberties and our happiness. But there remains to us another weapon—the armour of organized and sustained protest against these fretting inhibitions. If we do not use this armour, it is because we are too lamb-like in our manhood—too meek, too submissive, and too passively indifferent to our own welfare. If we haven't the guts to fight for what we are in dire need of for the preservation of our lives, then we deserve to be led to slaughter, like lambs in a

# NEGRO COUNCIL TO MEET IN ALL DAY SESSION

## To Discuss Plight of Race

The relief situation, housing unemployment and the plight of Negro businesses are among the chief subjects which will be discussed at an all-day conference conducted by the Chicago Council of Negro Organization at the Metropolitan Community church, Saturday, May 28. Delegates from all member organizations of the council are expected to attend and in addition, there will be delegates from organized labor groups and from organizations interested in the welfare of the Negro population.

The theme of the conference is "The Economic Plight of the Negro." "Negroes suffer in common with other groups, the general evils of unemployment and in addition, others which are the result of their isolation," states the announcement of the conference. "The present plight of the Negro is serious. He has always been the first fired and the last hired' and even during the short period of recovery, he was not re-absorbed in private industry in proportion to his relative numbers in the labor field," the statement continues. It is because the Negro suffers peculiar handicaps that the Council of Negro Organizations feels it advisable to hold a conference at this time.

The program committee, of which Charles W. Burton is chairman, has arranged a wide scope of discussions which will prove of interest to Negroes generally. The morning session, starting at 10 o'clock, will deal with public assistance. Officials of the Chicago Relief Administration, the Illinois Emergency Relief Commission and persons engaged in various types of social work will discuss the present status of the relief situation with special reference to the Negro population.

At 12:45 the attention of the conference will be turned to housing. With the uncertainty of the completion of the south side low-cost housing project and the pending legislation in the state legislature relating to enabling legislation which will make the completion of this building possible, a great deal of interest is being manifested in the session devoted to housing

Problems of Negro businesses, which, it is claimed, are growing more and more serious, will be discussed at 2:45. Members of the Chicago Negro Chamber of Commerce, of which Walter L. Marshall is the recently elected president, are expected to attend this session in a body.

The session which will undoubtedly attract the greatest interest will be held at 7:30 p. m., at which time unemployment will be the topic.

Reports of various chairmen of the sessions will be rendered at a monster mass meeting, Sunday afternoon, at 3 o'clock. Prominent speakers will be presented who will discuss the general situation and these will be followed by reports.

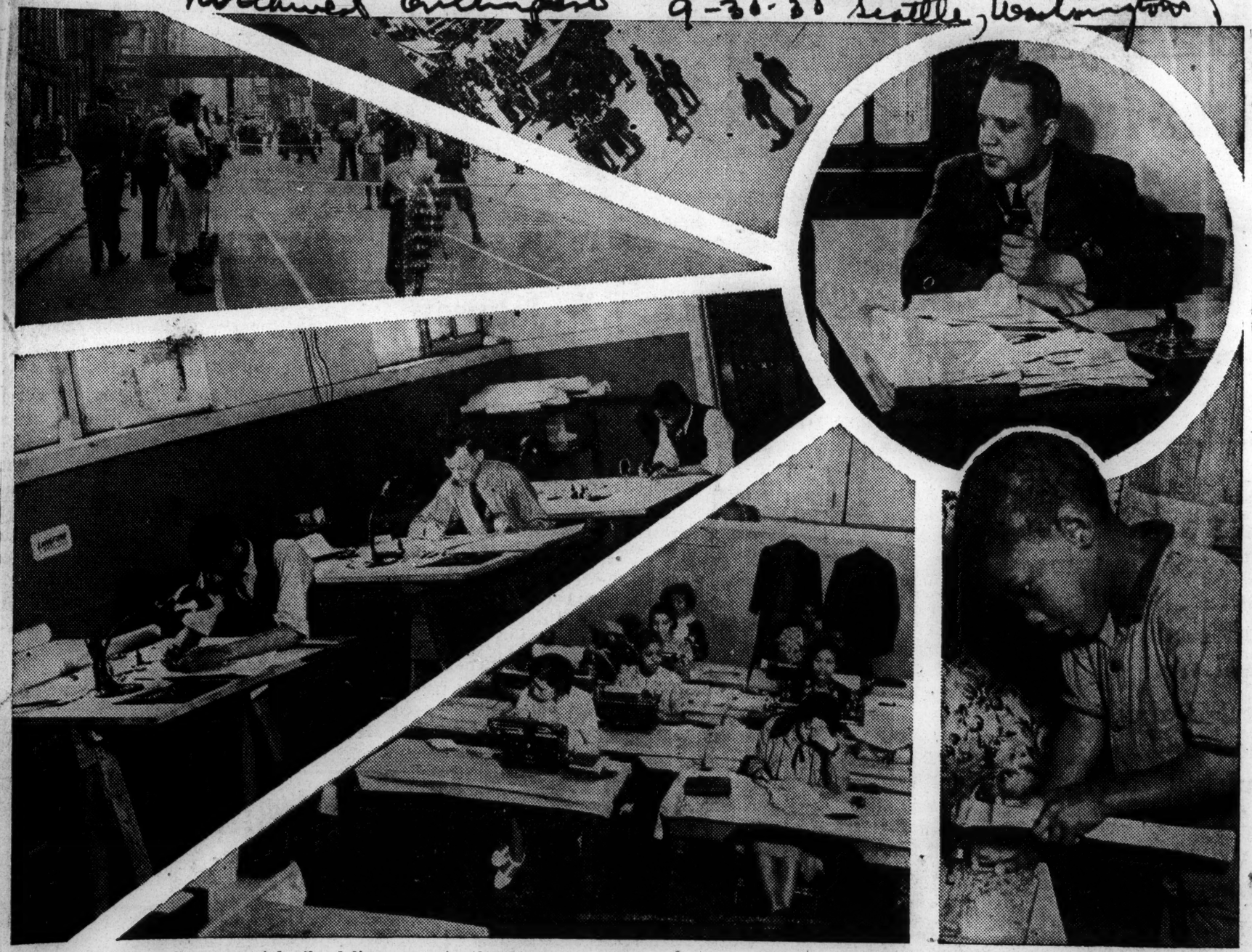
The Chicago Council of Negro Organizations now boasts of a membership of sixty-four memOrganizations now boasts of a powerful Negro organization in the United States. Among the most recent additions to the membership roll are the Citizens Non-Partisan League, Illinois Women Today Club, Masters, Past Masters and Wardens Council of Masons, National DuSable Memorial Society and the Woman's Auxiliary of the Chicago Urban League

Social Conditions, Improvement of — 1938

Illinois.

# SEATTLE BOY HEADS CHICAGO PROJECT

Northwest Enterprise 9-30-38 Seattle, Washington



Through the Works Progress Administration, Chicago is shoulding its civic responsibility by keeping a check on juvenile delinquency. Mr. Horace Cayton, pictures in the photo to the top right, is co-director with Dr. W. Lloyd Warner, prominent sociologist, of a full study of "the cultural and social factors surrounding the problem of juvenile delinquency in the Negro community in the Illinois metropolis." The top center photo shows the urban life which exerts a pressure upon the youths shown at play in the next picture.

The other views show draftsmen mapping the trends of crime in the comunity, and the stenographic force making up reports of investigators. The work of a total of 125 WPA workers on this project will be used by the public and remedial agencies to prevent further crime among youths ranging in age from that of the youth shown in the lower right to young people in their early twenties.

(WPA Photos)

NOTE: Mr. Cayton is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Cayton, pioneer residents of Seattle. Mr. Cayton Sr., for years published Cayton's Weekly, and enjoyed the distinction of having it said that as Cayton's Weekly goes, so goes the election. Horace is one of several very talented children. He is a native of Seattle and formerly was employed in the Sheriff's office.

## Winifred Ingram Named Assistant To H. Cayton

Northwest Enterprise 9-30-38 Seattle, Washington

Miss Winifred Ingram, daughter of Mrs. Ione Williams of the Adelphi Apartments, has accepted an appointment with Horace Cayton as assistant in charge of a survey of cultural cause of delinquency among Negroes in Chicago. Mr. Cayton is head of the project, and in another part of the paper is a more detailed account of the activities of the project. The citizens of Seattle feel quite proud of having two Seattleites in official positions on such a project. Miss Ingram received her Masters Degree in Sociology.

## Appointed

Lemily Ward

Miss Florence Robinson has recently been appointed case worker with the Atlanta Relief Commission. She is a recent graduate of the Atlanta School of Social Work and holds her master's degree from Columbia university. She belongs to the AKA sorority.

10-16-37

# CITY AWAITS START ON HOUSING PROJECT; FINAL BARRIER GON

When the city council Thursday morning voted that the South Park Gardens housing project would be tax free, it cleared the way for building to begin, and made possible low rentals, a boon to families in the lower income brackets. The ordinance, introduced Wednesday, was given immediate consideration because of the move on the part of Alderman William L. Dawson, of the second ward, in a plea for quick action. Several hundred persons may start to work on the project this week.

Mayor Edward J. Kelly immediately approved the action of the council, setting a $12,000 service fee on the project in lieu of taxes.

By the signing of the ordinance, Mayor Kelly again showed his deep interest in the low-cost housing project for the southside. All citizens of the community are praising him for his continued interest in the project and for the light he has made to clear all obstacles from the way of construction.

In commenting on the South Park Gardens Project, Mayor Kelly said: "I am indeed happy to know that the southside is to receive this Federal Project. My interest has never flagged and I am deeply grateful to Chicago's splendid colored citizens and their organizations for the wonderful cooperation and zeal which has been displayed. The project means a great deal for the south side and for the city of Chicago as a whole.

"Chicago's aldermen are as interested as I am and I want to express my appreciation to this fine body of men who, with the interest of our city at heart, passed the ordinance fixing the service fee requirement. Work will start soon on the project which will aid in bringing better housing to the south side."

**CHICAGOAN APPOINTED TO HOUSING AUTHORITY**

CHICAGO, (ANP)—Robert R. Taylor, resident manager of the Rosenwald Apartments, was named a member of the Chicago Housing Authority last week to succeed William J. Lynch.

# CHICAGOAN ON HOUSING AUTHORITY

CHICAGO, Dec. 8 — (ANP) — Mayor Edward Kelly last Wednesday announced appointment of Robert R. Taylor, civic leader and resident manager of the Rosenwald Apartments as a member of the Chicago Housing Authority. He will serve out the remainder of the term of William J. Lynch, resigned, the term expiring January 5, 1942.

Ald. Robert R. Jackson made a motion before the City Council that the appointment be confirmed. Taylor's confirmation was unanimous.

# STRAUS SIGNS CHI'S HOUSING FUND CONTRACT

Contracts providing funds for the South Park Gardens Low Rent Housing Project were signed by Nathan Straus, administrator of the United States Housing Authority, this week, according to word received from Washington, D. C., by Joseph H. McCarthy, chairman of the Chicago Housing Authority.

The contracts signed provide that the United States Housing Authority will purchase approximately $8,674,000 worth of bonds of the Chicago Housing Authority, which totals 90% of the total bond issue necessary for the project, and also make a contribution of approximately $371,000 a year to the project. This contribution will assure sufficiently low rent for the project so that it can house families of the lowest income group now living in sub-standard housing.

The South Park Gardens Project will be built by the Chicago Housing Authority on land purchased by the Housing Division of the Public Works Administration on South Parkway between 37th and 39th streets, and between South Parkway and Cottage Grove avenue. This site is approximately 37 acres in extent. It was formerly occupied by dilapidated buildings but at the present time has been cleared of all but half a dozen buildings.

The United States' Housing Act which provides the funds for the Federal loan and contribution for this project requires that the city of Chicago shall make an annual contribution in order to secure low rent. The city's contribution takes the form of tax exemption. The project will not, however, be wholly released from contributing to the costs of local government. The city recently entered into a cooperative agreement with the Chicago Housing Authority, under the terms of which the Chicago Housing Authority agrees to pay a service charge in lieu of taxes amounting to 3% of the shelter rent of this project. Although the shelter rent is not determined at this time, the service charge will probably amount to not less than $12,000 a year.

The architects for the authority have been working for some time on the preliminary drawings. It is anticipated that within two weeks approximately fifty draftsmen will be at work on detailed drawings. The Authority hopes to break ground shortly after the first of the year. The construction of the project will provide work for more than five thousand building tradesmen over a period of eighteen months.

The project will do much to relieve the extremely bad housing shortage in the southside area. It is generally recognized that the general housing condition, overcrowding, and congestion is worse in this area than in any other part of the city.

Indiana

Social Conditions, Improvement of—1938.

# Evansville's Housing Unit Thrown Open

September
7-16-38

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 15—Lincoln Gardens, the government's new $927,000 slum clearance and low-rent housing project in Evansville, Ind., was opened to tenants Friday by order of Nathan Straus, administrator of the United Housing Authority.

The project provides decent living quarters for 191 families who formerly resided in substandard dwellings. The average rents range from $12.65 for two-room dwellings of $20.24 for four rooms. Included in the rents are charges for electricity for lighting and refrigeration, and gas for cooking and hot water.

Replacing one of Evansville's worst slum areas, the project was erected on a 10-acre site and the dwellings will be rented only to low income families.

The project is under the management of Dr. Raymond King who is a member of the field staff of the United States Housing Authority in Washington.

Iowa.

Social Conditions, Improvement of—1938

# East Side Negro Community Center

September
4-21-38

The Top Hatters club will meet Sunday afternoon, April 24th, at 4 o'clock at the East Des Moines Community Center.

Mesdames Beatrice Crank and Alice McCraney were in charge of the Child Study club, which met Friday, April 22, at the East Des Moines Community Center.

The Adult Garden club will meet at the Community Center on Wednesday, April 27th, at 8 p. m.

The librarian of the branch circulating library of the East Side Community Center invites the public to view the reading list of books on Negro poetry and progress, and the development in the field of literature, art and drama.

Mrs. Birdie Winn will be hostess to the La Mercredi club Wednesday afternoon.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Kentucky

# HOUSING UNIT IS DEDICATED IN LOUISVILLE

## College Court, Worth $766,000, Has 125 Apartments for Negroes

2-11-38

By HAZEL BROWN WILLIAMS

LOUISVILLE, Ky. —(ANP)—When J. A. Lattimer, Washington representative of the National Housing Authority, turned over to Mayor Scholtz keys to College Court, the $766,000 Federal housing project for Negroes at Seventh and Florence place, at the public dedication on the grounds Sunday, February 6, the Municipal Housing Commission assumed control of the project.

For the occasion, J. A. Thomas, Negro chairman of the Louisville Urban League and of the dedication committee, arranged a program of music and speeches concluding with the singing of "America" by the audience during a flag raising.

**Speaks on Purposes**

A. J. Stewart, chairman of the Municipal Housing Commission, delivered an address on the purposes and progress of Louisville's housing program, followed by a talk by Chairman Thomas on the significance of College Court for the city's Negro population. Mayor Scholtz then received the keys and delivered an address of acceptance.

The second part of the musical program consisted of selections by the Louisville Municipal college chorus, directed by Mrs. Barbara S. Miller. The dedication closed with benediction by the Rev. C. L. Russell of the Chestnut Street Methodist Episcopal church.

The dedication committee, all Negro, was composed of Chairman Thomas, Dr. J. A. C. Lattimore, David A. Lane Jr., Frank Stanley, the Rev. Mr. Offutt, A. E. Mazeek, John Petrie, Mrs. George C. Clement, Dr. P. O. Sweeney, Mrs. Patsy Sloan and Mrs. Murray A. Walls.

Colored Boy Scouts were designated to act as ushers.

**All Apartments Leased**

College Court consists of 12 dwelling units comprising 125 apartments of two, three, four and five-room types. The rent ranges from $15.60 for the lowest two-room apartment a month to $24.80 for five rooms, both of which include heat, gas range, gas-operated refrigerator, built-in features and water service. For use of the tenants are seven equipped laundry rooms.

The buildings occupy three of the five and a fourth acres in the tract which years ago was the home of the Louisville Baseball club.

The 125 apartments have been leased 100 percent since January 29, according to Earl Pruitt, manager. More than 700 applications have been made. By the second week in February all apartments are expected to be occupied. It is felt that another such project is needed for the Negro population here.

# Louisville to Get $4,000,000 Housing Project

2-25

LOUISVILLE, Ky., May 5—(ANP)—The United States Housing Authority has approved plans for a West End $4,000,000 low-cost WPA housing project for Negroes, it was announced here last Tuesday. The project will be located within boundaries yet to be determined in the west central area. A. J. Stewart, chairman of the commission, said he hoped to have actual construction under way by winter in order to give maximum employment to workers.

The architectural work for the Negro project and for another in the East End for whites will be done by a board of architects named by the Housing Commission. A real property survey now under way under WPA direction, will show, according to officials, the real need for low-cost housing in the Negro section.

Social Conditions, Improvement of—1938 Louisiana

Atlanta, Ga Constitution
May 29, 1938

## URBAN LEAGUE

By JESSE O. THOMAS

*The purpose of the Bulletin is to chronicle the worthwhile things done for, by, and with the Negro, as a basis of increasing inter-racial good-will and understanding.*

Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel made a personal contribution of $100 May 23, the first such amount to be given, in the city-wide drive to make possible a New Orleans unit of the Urban League.

Haspel Brothers, Inc., of 2527 St. Bernard avenue, headed by Joseph Haspel Sr., member of the league campaign committee, also made a contribution today. The campaign is directed by Marshall Ballard Jr. It is held in behalf of the interracial group that seeks to bring about better understanding of negro social and economic problems. A goal of $5,500 has been set.

Two of the New Orleans dailies, the Item and States, gave the following editorial indorsement and support to the campaign now in progress among the white citizens to raise their quota of $3,000 of the total budget of $5,500, which represents the operating expenses of the New Orleans branch of the Urban League for the first year.

"A study by the Orleans Council of Social Agencies of existing work for or among our colored population indicates that large areas are untouched and needs unmet. The council recommended establishment of a branch of the National Urban League. This is a noncontroversial, nonpolitical, nonsectarian social welfare institution. It was organized 27 years ago in the home of Mrs. William H. Baldwin Jr., wife of the late William H. Baldwin Jr., who was president of the Long Island Railroad and president of the trustees of Tuskegee Institute. It has 46 branches in as many cities.

"In no department of interracial activities has the white man of the south given more liberal support to negroes in the past three-quarters of a century than through his efforts to encourage self-help. What he has done toward making the negro a better citizen has been motivated by the teaching that we are our brother's keeper, that the strong must bear the infirmities of the weak. His course has been based upon enlightened selfishness as well as inspired by generous impulses. Crime, immorality and disease recognize no color line."—The New Orleans Item.

"Thoughtful persons will rejoice to learn that the subscription to raise funds to launch the National Urban League in New Orleans is making such steady progress. Of the $5,500 estimated as necessary for the first year's operation, the colored people have already raised $2,000 and expect to raise $500 more, according to Jesse O. Thomas, southern field director of the league; and a committee of white citizens, under the leadership of Marshall Ballard Jr., has undertaken to raise $3,000 and expects to do it in ten days.

"The Urban League is a social welfare organization which reaches int 46 cities of the United States, 12 of them in the south. The directorates of the different branches include intelligent and fair citizens of both races. The league always affiliates with the Community Chest, and it works to improve living, working and housing conditions of negroes and bring about a better understanding between the races."—The New Orleans States.

Negroes have raised more than $2,000 of a $2,500 quota. The campaign among the colored people got a six-week start on the white committee. The colored people made a significant interracial gesture which was accepted by the white campaign committee. Since they have $2,000 of their money in hand in cash, they offered to finance the preliminary steps of the white campaign.

The members of the white committee are very much impressed with this voluntary and unsolicited proffer on the part of colored leaders. It represents a new approach. It is not the usual practice for negroes to underwrite the cost of any financial effort of white people. It usually develops in the reverse order.

# SON OF EDITOR OF ITEM-TRIBUNE IS ELECTED TO POST

NEW ORLEANS, La., Oct. 13—Marshall Ballard, Jr. son of the son of the editor of the New Orleans Item-Tribune white newspaper, was elected chairman of the newly organized New Orleans National Urban League at the organization meeting held in the Y. W. C. A. building on Gravier street Wednesday afternoon last. Mr. Ballard has been serving as head of the campaign committee which was raising funds for the purpose of operating the Urban League in New Orleans.

A board consisting of leading white and Negro citizens was selected to serve with Mr. Ballard. Offices are to be opened and an industrial secretary and an assistant are to be put to work immediately.

The league was made possible by a visit to the city by Jesse O. Thomas who was present during the organization meeting. Mr. Thomas laid the ground work for the organization and conducted the campaign among the Negroes of the city. Other members of the board are as follows:

Sam Zemurray, Jr., Mrs. Joseph E. Friend, C. C. Dejoie and Mrs. I. I. Lemann, vice-chairmen; Mrs. M. O. Brown, secretary; Miss Blanche Best, assistant secretary; A. J. Sarre, treasurer, and Dr. P. P. Creuzot, assistant treasurer.

Members of the board are Marshall Ballard, Jr., Miss Blanche Best, P. E. Burke, Rev. Edward J. Casserly, J. E. Crown, James H. Crutcher, Mrs. Judith Hyams Douglas, Mrs. Joseph E. Friend, Rabbi Julian Feibelman, Richard R. Foster, Rev. Harold A. Gaudin, Joseph Haspel, Sr., Isaac Heller, Mrs. Hamilton Polk Jones, Rev. Herman Joseph Jacobi, Mrs. William Lamb, Mrs. I. I. Lemann, T. M. Martin, Rev. Norman A. Maunz, Rev. Edward F. Murphy, Mrs. H. S. Mayerson, Rev. Dunbar H. Ogden, E. C. Staples, A. J. Sarre, Clarke Salmon, Miss Florence Sytz,, Moise Steeg, Jr., John Minor Wisdom, E. L. Worthington, Eldon S. Lazarus, George H. Tinker Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel Samuel Zemurray, Mrs. Samue Zemurray, Mrs. Merle Dore, Mrs Walter S. Stern, C. C. Dejoie, Sr. James Lewis, Dr. P. P. Creuzot Mrs. Samuel Saizon, Harry Braden, Jr., S. W. Green, Dr. J. E. Simms, A. M. Trudeau, Mrs. Gertrude Willis, Emile Labat, Mrs. A. R. Aubry, A. P. Tureaud, Mrs. L. T. Burbridge, H. C. Gilbert, Rev. W. T. Handy, Rev. N. A. Holmes, John Altimus, O. C. W. Taylor, Miss Edna Cordier and Mrs. W. S. Nelson.

# NEW ORLEANS JOINS URBAN LEAGUE SETUP

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 19 (ANP)—At a meeting in the assembly room of the Gravier Street branch of the Y.W.C.A., Wednesday afternoon, which was attended by some 66 prominent Negro and white citizens, the New Orleans branch of the National Urban league was permanently organized.

Archbishop Joseph F. Rummel was elected honorary chairman and Marshall Ballard, Jr., son of the editor of the New Orleans Item and executive secretary of the United Fruit Company, was elected chairman of the board of directors. Rev. W. T. Handy, pastor of Mt. Zion M. E. church; C. C. Dejoie, president of the Unity Life Insurance company; Samuel Zemurray, Jr., son of one of the wealthiest men in the South; Mrs. I. I. Lemman, wife of the late Dr. Lemman, who gave to the city of New Orleans two parks, one for white and one for colored, in memory of his son who was fatally wounded in the World's war; Mrs. Joseph E. Friend, an outstanding civic worker and a leader among the Jewish women of the city, were elected vice presidents. Mrs. Mayme Osby Brown, editor of The Louisiana Weekly, was elected secretary and Miss Blanche Best elected assistant secretary. Miss Best is the executive secretary of the Y.W.C.A. Central association. A. J. Sarre, state director of the N. Y.A. of Louisiana, was elected treasurer and Dr. P. P. Creuzot, leading dentist and treasurer of the New Orleans branch of the N.A.A.C.P., was elected assistant-treasurer.

The organization of the League was a culmination of the campaign directed among colored and white citizens of New Orleans by Jesse O. Thomas, Southern Field director of the National Urban league.

New Orleans, La. Times Picayune
October 20, 1938

# NEGRO DIVISION OF CHEST BACKS QUOTA OF $6000

## Group Holds Organization Meeting at Y. W. C. A. Branch

The negro division of the Community Chest, at an organization meeting at the Canal street branch of the Young Women's Christian Association, Wednesday night accepted a quota of $6000 for the campaign from November 8 through November 30.

Leaflets were distributed, showing services of Chest agencies to negroes. Services to negroes reported during the past year were: Clinic treatments, 70,992; home nursing visits, 26,992; hospital care for 2146 persons; days care given in orphanages, 48,174; days care in day nurseries, 15,757; boys and girls served each month in character building groups, 1444; days of care given aged

and handicapped, 42,819; job placements, 1123.

The 10 Chest agencies for negroes are Flint-Goodridge hospital, Gaudet Normal and Industrial school, Isabella Hume Community Center, Lafon Catholic Old Folks' Home, Lafon Home for Boys, Lafon Protestant Old Folks' Home, People's Methodist Episcopal Community Center, St. John Berchman's asylum, Dryades street branch of the Young Men's Christian Association and Canal street branch of the Young Women's Christian Association. In addition, other agencies assist negroes.

Chest speakers today will be William B. Dreux, at a meeting of the Charity Hospital Guild at the Sophie Gumble Home, 5701 Loyola avenue, at 11 a. m., and Leonard Oppenheim, at a meeting of the Sisterhood of Congregation Gates of Prayer, at Gates of Prayer Synagogue, 2:30 p. m.

# Urban League Branch Opens In New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS, La.—A new branch of the National Urban League was opened here on Sunday, with appropriate ceremonies. The branch is located at 1010 Dryades street. Like other Urban League branches, it is devoted to the task of promoting better racial relationships in the city and to bettering the condition of the Negro industrially and socially.

Clarence A. Laws, former shelter superintendent of the Federal Transient Bureau and co-author of "The Negro in Louisiana" a Writers' Project guide book soon to be published has been named industrial secretary of the New Orleans League. A graduate of Straight College, he has been actively engaged in work for the betterment of housing, living, and working conditions for Negroes for a number of years. Until other appointments to the staff are made, Xavier University students and WPA workers will assist with the social and clerical work of the organization.

Mr. Laws has announced that he will make special efforts to obtain jobs for unemployed Negro mechanics, craftsmen and professionally trained men and women. He will also seek better relations with unions which at present, through discriminatory policies, bar Negroes from obtaining certain types of work.

The League's board is composed of civic leaders of New Orleans. Marshall Ballard, Jr., is chairman, and Archbishop Joseph Francis Rummell is hononary chairman.

# New Orleans Gets More Millions For Negro Slum Clearance Project

## Two New Setups, Costing Over $7,000,000, Will Provide 1390 Dwelling Units—Will Be Started Soon.

By LEON LEWIS

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 22—Two additional federal housing projects for the New Orleans slum clearance program were aprpoved in Washington last week. The government allocated $7,070,000 for the new jobs bringing the total of federal funds awarded the city to $25,311,000.

Four clearance projects had previously been approved and funds alloted in the lower and upper section of the city. The new projects will both be for Negroes, one each in the uptown area and downtown area of the city. Officials of the New Orleans Housing authority said that the locations had not been definitely decided upon.

The two projects will provide 1,390 dwelling units and each will cost approximately four million dollars. The uptown housing unit will contain 644 units of 2,810 rooms constructed on 1,409,304 square feet of privately owned property and 288,500 square feet of public streets and alleys of the latter dimension all but 66,319 square feet of new public streets and alleys will become part of the project site.

The downtown project will contain 1,467,473 square feet of privately owned property 382,450 square feet of public streets and alleys. The entire square footage will be covered by the project.

**TRENDS IN LAND USED IN NEW ORLEANS**

The following comment was offered in the application regarding trends in land used in New Orleans:

"There is no major industrial areas in New Orleans. Industries are widely scattered around the city, none being immediately close to the areas to be used for these projects. The future trend of industries will never encroach on these sights.

"There have been no material changes in the areas occupied by Negroes, but Negroes have in the last few years, commenced to occupy areas formally distinctly white." (this is due largely to the Supreme court victory in the Segregation Case).

**ESTIMATE UNITS NEEDED**

Repeating the results of a survey made in July of this year the application gives the following figures, based however upon the number of dwelling units instead of families:

"Total dweling units 111,645; vacancy in all dwelling units, 1185 or 1.06 per cent.

"Dwelling units available to Negroes, 33,493; vacancies for Negroes, 256 or 1.06 per cent."

The total number of substandard dwelling units is the same as the number of Negro dwelling units and between 65 and 80 per cent of these are used by Negro occupants. Negro occupancy is 30 per cent of the total for the city but the percentage of substandard units occupied by them more than doubles the percentage occupied by whites.

The application explained its definition of substandard conditions as: Units unfit for use or in need of major repairs or alterations or repairs necessary to protect the persons or health of the occupants; lacking inside running water, inside tubs or showers for exclusive use of family, inside water toilet for exclusive use of family, gas or electric light, adequate heating facilities, living room less than 150 feet square, bedroom less than 100 square feet, inadequate window spacing, lack of cross ventilation and the existence of fire hazards. When the number of persons is in excess of 1.5 times the number of rooms or more than one family resides in one unit.

These existences were found to be especially widespread among Negroes. The projects are to be started as son as plans are made available.

# USHA Grants City $7,070,000 With Which To Build 1,390 Low Cost Housing Units

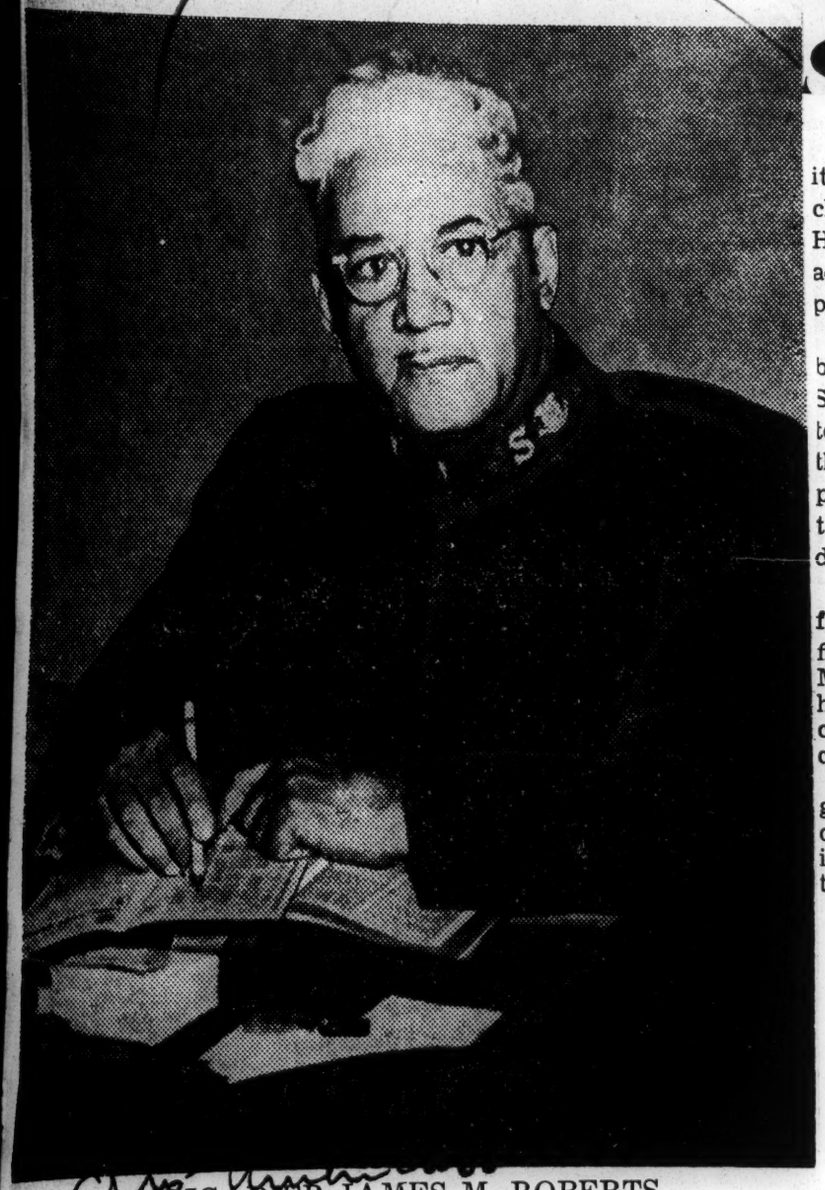
NEW ORLEANS, La. (ANP)—Two much-needed low cost housing units to replace tenement dwellings now occupied by colored families were assured recently with the granting of a $7,070,000 loan to the city by the United States Housing Authority.

One of the projects will be above, the other below Canal St., it was anonunced by the housing authority of New Orleans. Each project will cost approximately four million dollars and provide a total of 1,390 dwelling units. The uptown project will contain 644 units of 2,810 rooms, the downtown project 746 units of 3,103 rooms.

Rents in the new buildings will approximate $10 a month for the four room units and average about $2.50 a month per room for all units. The new development will replace 15 structures containing 29 units, all termed "unsafe and unsanitary." The units are occupied by 29 colored families paying an average monthly rental of $7.52. Seven of these families are on relief.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938 Maryland

## HE SAVES SOULS



BRIGADIER JAMES M. ROBERTS,

who is leader of Salvation Army Corps No. 2, located a Seventh and P Streets, Northwest, and has seen active service in the organization since 1898. He told the AFRC last week that the Salvation Army (termed the church of the back streets) administers a spiritual tonic to the undernourished man considered a social outcast. In his spare moments, the brigadier plays the guitar, reads and plans future improvements.

# Housing Board Set for Study

BALTIMORE

The Baltimore Housing Authority is about to conclude its slum clearing investigations in Section H, and investigators have been advised to make their final reports, it was learned this week.

The neighborhood of Section H, bounded by Fremont Avenue, Saratoga, Schroeder and Lexington Streets, was the first of the three colored projects to be appraised, assessed, surveyed, and to undergo property acquirement deals.

According to an announcement from the housing authority office on Tuesday, Milton Dorsey, Milton Davage, and Clark Davis have been assigned to take the census, and study general living conditions of the neighborhood.

They will also conduct investigations to determine desirability of replacing the present families in the new homes to be built by the Government.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Massachusetts.

## KEEP STEELE HERE

In deciding to reject the proffered resignation of Mr. Julian D. Steele as headworker, the Robert Gould Shaw House will honor its illustrious name sake, Colonel Robert Gould Shaw. For just as he defied the prejudice and taboos of his generation in the struggle for the complete emancipation of the colored race, the Shaw House directors can and must have the courage to meet and accept the challenge of the situation facing them today.

Mr. Steele in offering his resignation, has done the gentlemanly albeit a needless act. His sincerity and integrity are above reproach. But the directors can not, if they are working with the best interest of the Shaw House at heart, permit the community to lose his services. In these crucial days colored people are in need of leaders of courage, intelligence and integrity. Mr. Steele symbolizes these qualities. He has done an outstanding job as a social worker and is so recognized by his colleagues.

His rumored marriage is his own affair. Let no one who wants to have the respect and confidence of the colored community overlook this.

THE GUARDIAN wants Mr. Steele to stay at the Shaw House in Boston and takes this opportunity of urging the members of the Robert Gould Shaw House council to stand by him and give him unstinted support.

Colored America and a large element of white America are watching. **The spirit of the Ku Klux Klan must not prevail at Shaw House.** In the interests of justice, fair play and common decency, colored citizens demand this.

5

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938

Michigan.

# $5,200,000 Project Ready For Tenants

## Low Rent Averages $4.52 Per Room

WASHINGTON, D. C.— The United States Government's two large low-rent housing projects in Detroit, Mich., were formally leased recently to the Detroit Housing Commission by Leon H. Keyserling acting administrator of the United States housing authority. Tenants will begin moving into the projects on September 15, according to present plans.

Parkside, built at a cost of $4,000,000 provides 775 decent homes for low-income white families. Brewster, a $5,200,000 slum-clearance project, provides 701 dwellings for colored families. The initial lease becomes effective when the buildings are ready for occupancy and terminates June 30, 1940. The annual rental which the local authority will pay the United States Housing Authority for both projects is $57,706 per year.

The lease stipulates a schedule of rents in which the cost of shelter alone averages $5.07 per room month for Parkside and $4.52 per room per month in Brewster.

In Brewster, the monthly gross dwelling rentals, including heat, hot water and electricity for lighting, cooking and refrigeration average a gross rent per month from $13.30 to $30.

In each project the living-bedroom apartments include kitchen, dining space and a bathroom. The 1, 2, and 3-bedroom apartments each have separate living rooms.

Brewster stands on a 27-acre site on which formerly was one of the worst crime and disease ridden slum areas in Detroit, and consists of 3-story apartments, 2-story group houses and 2-story flats, making up 35 fire-resistive structures.

The project is provided with ample play areas for children and lawns, walks and drives for recreation and pleasure of the tenants. Each dwelling is equipped with an electric range and an electric refrigerator. Laundries are available to the tenants. There are also a number of facilities for meeting rooms and recreation quarters for the tenants.

Under the Wagner-Steagall Act, families whose incomes exceed five times the dwelling rentals are not eligible to become tenants, except where there are three or more minor dependents. In such cases the ratio of income to rent may be six to one. The low-rent dwellings are available only to families now living in substandard housing and who are unable to provide safe and sanitary homes within their means.

# "Dear President" Letter Results In Action For This Jobless Woman

## Unable to Get on Relief, Detroiter Drops Letter To FDR; Gets Immediate Attention

By R. A. CRUMP

DETROIT —(ANP)— Convinced that she was being given the 'run around' by local WPA officials who offered her no job despite the fact she has been certified for over four months, Miss Myrtle Norl recently wrote President Roosevelt and told him of the situation as it affects Negroes here.

She said white women—registered and certified long after she had been—were given preference and appointed ahead of her; and that colored women were still being paid the $3.00 per week and denied jobs, a situation which has long prevailed here.

Miss Norl's complaint to the President brought prompt action, both from Washington and local officials. Last Monday, a delegation of 50 Civic Center members marched to the WPA building, to protest against the discriminatory practices.

People in the lower Eastside believe Gov. Frank Murphy could remedy the situation, were he inclined to do so. They declare he has not given residents there the attention and consideration they deserve.

It was reported the Civic Center plans sending a delegation to the capital at Lansing to get the Governor to take action against WPA Jim Crow practices.

The reply to Miss Norl's letter, signed by Alfred E. Smith, administrative assistant in the Washington office of WPA Administrator Harry L. Hopkns, was as follows:

"Dear Miss Norl: President Roosevelt has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of recent date in which you complain that Negroes are discriminated by local WPA officials. I am sending copies of your letter to Mr. Louis M. Mims, your State administrator. I feel sure he will have your complaint looked into and take steps to adjust any unsatisfactory conditions."

# Detroit Woman Writes to President; Gets Action On Complaints Against W P A

## Harry Hopkins Writes Personal Letter

## Claims She Did Not Get Job Although She Has Been Certified for Over Four Moths

By R. A. CRUMP

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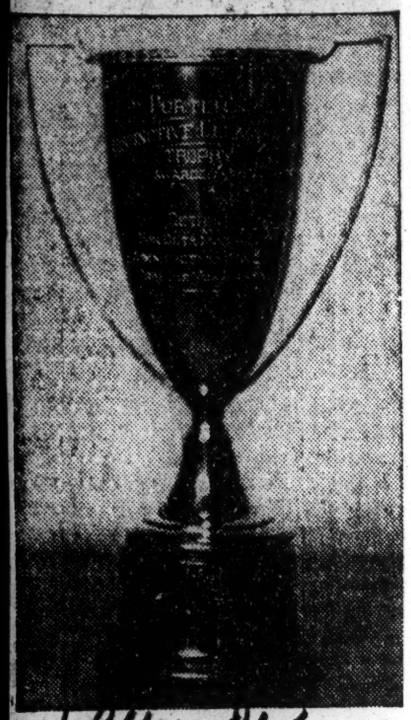
# For Racial Uplift



This trophy is one of two cups to be awarded the two individuals selected as having made the greatest contributions for racial uplift and advancement in Metropolitan Detroit during the year 1938. The awards will be made Wednesday, Dec. [illegible] at the regular meeting of the Noonday Luncheon club of the Booker T. Washington Trade association at Lucy Thurman Y. W. C. A., Detroit, Michigan.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Minnesota

# MINNESOTA COUNCIL ADOPTS THREE-YEAR IMPROVEMENT PLAN

MINNEAPOLIS.— (ANP) — Before a large and enthusiastic audience attending its initial Community Night program, the Minnesota Negro Council held a seminar revolving about the subject "The Negro Finds His Way Out of the Depression," at Border M. E. church.

The executive chairman, C. E. Rucker, reviewed the general aims and accomplishments of the council and introduced Miss Wyllis Eastman of St. Paul, Chairman of the Educational Commission and a recent delegate to the National Negro Congress, who presided.

Members of the council who spoke were John Thomas, chairman of the Minesota Youth Council; Pat Patton, who gave a clear picture of the trade unions; Robert Jones, who urged greater study and the ultimate formation of a Cooperative enterprise; Lathrop Rogers who told the advantages of Third Party alignments and Samuel Harris presented to the community the Minnesota Negro Council's Three-year plan which is as follows:

### Many Points in Plan

Negro school teachers in St. Paul and Minneapolis school systems;

Membership and full privileges in all Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A.'s in the Twin Cities;

A going Co-operative enterprise;

Definite improvement in housing in St. Paul and Minneapolis including abolition of restrictive residential clauses;

Break down color barriers in hotels, restaurants, taverns, etc., in Twin Cities: 100 progressive, liberal members; A definite plan of aid to young Negro students and their problems;

Arouse interest and active participation by Negroes in Labor Unions;

The registration of every qualified Negro voter in the state;

A qualified Negro employed in every department of state, county and city government;

To aid and cooperate with every worthy community agency and to urge the Negroes' steadfast belief in his own inherent qualities, and to assist him to gain self-respect and a place in his chosen community: Because slovenliness, untidiness, uncleanliness are forces that stimulate prejudice, discrimination and segregation, we propose to inaugurate a campaign among ourselves to improve our conduct and appearance in public places;

A state civil service bill that is fair, equitable and non-discriminatory, to every applicant for such employment;

An educational bureau where complete and authentic data and statistics are available. This includes a speakers' bureau, the purpose of which will be to encourage and develop young speakers from the Negro group.

## Negro Woman Heads Social Work Group

MINNEAPOLIS. — (ANP) — Steering activities of the Group Work division of the Minnesota State Conference of Social Work which attracted workers from all over Minnesota to its headquarters in the Nicollet hotel May 23-27, was the job of Miss I. Myrtle Carden, Director of the Hallie Q. Brown of Community House in St. Paul.

At the invitation of Miss Carden's Division, Miss Clara A. Kaiser of the New York School of Social Work came to the city to give instructions to the assembled social workers. Her mission was to point out the importance of group work in relation to the community at large.

Although the majority of these casting votes were white, Miss Carden was re-elected to head the Group Work Division for the year 1938-39. She is a native of Philadelphia but has been director of the Community House in St. Paul for nine years.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938 Mississippi.

Ruleville, Miss. Record
January 20, 1938

# A PLEA FOR THE NEGRO

To all colored pastors of churches, teachers of schools, presidents of organizations and men in business of Sunflower County.

I can no longer be quiet. The deplorable condition of the unfortunates of our race have aroused me to the extent that I feel that it is time for somebody to do something.

After visiting the poorhouse at Moorhead, noting conditions generally, after standing on the streets in Indianola and seeing twenty negros loaded on a truck for Parchman, some under twenty years of age; then taking note of the youths of our town who have served terms on the county farm, listening to their immoral conversation—that leads to vulgar acts of conduct, I am undoubtedly sure that something needs to be done.

Studying these sad situations further I find aged mothers and fathers standing on the streets waiting and begging for relief; I find invalids walking the streets, and being eyed by everyone, and often scolded for their conduct; I find our orphans drifting from place to place, ragged and dirty; I find our sick going to charity hospitals—where they are asked many embarrassing questions, and then perhaps, turned down with the excuse that your county has used up its share of the state's appropriation.

The county and state are doing big things for us and they should be thanked and praised for what they are doing. But there is much more for us to do. Other counties have their hospitals working their doctors and nurses, while we stand by and complain about this and that. If our doctors can tell us what our ailments are I believe they can cure them if they had the proper houses and equipments.

The church should wake up. In St. Matthew 25:35-45, in substance Christ said he was going to talk to us about this in the judgment and some will be called into the kingdom and some would be driven away in utter darkness. The question that every one should ask himself is, Where shall I be?

I believe every one thinks these things over at times, but has no ways and means by which his desire can be brought into existence. All of us will readily admit that we need an old folks home, an orphanage, a home for the invalids, a reformatory for criminal youths, a county hospital for our sick. But do you have any plan for these? If not, why not accept the plan the Lord presents through me? Here is the plan.

**How the Money Shall Be Raised.**

Ask every pastor to see that every church in Sunflower county pay $1.50 per month, or $18.00 per year at least. Any amount above this will be accepted.

Ask every teacher to raise $1.50 from his or her class per month.

Ask every organized religious body for $1.50 per month.

Ask masonic orders and all clubs of note for $1.50 per month.

All negro businesses of all kinds, such as burial associations, insurance companies, shoe shops, shine stands, cafes, grocery and dry goods stores, garages, boarding houses, barber and beauty shops shall be asked for $1.50 per month.

**How the Money Shall Be Handled**

Every concern must deposit $1.25 in nearest bank. Send one deposit slip to the general treasury and keep one. The other 25c out of each $1.50 must be sent to the treasurer for general expenses, except repairing cars and buying tires.

Every school teacher shall be a missionary, trustee, or board member.

Every church shall have one board member of the local officers there shall be elected an executive board. When five thousand dollars have been raised eighty acres of land shall be bought at some desirable locality and such building will be erected that will meet the state's and God's approval.

This shall be a county wide drive. No money will be accepted that was raised from unlawful practices or degrading affairs. This sponsor may donate as much as he may care to.

Let us not worry any white people until we have raised $5,000. We need to do something ourselves before we ask for donations from the whites. Then we will ask the white people, county, state, and government for donations.

If your business will not justify you to give $1.50 put a savings bank in your place, and ask the public to put a penny in it.

Then consider serously what I have presented

Yours in Christ,
Q. M. GREEN.

Greenwood, Miss. Commonwealth
September 27, 1938

# WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR NEGRO CONTEST

Winners in the contest among the negroes, for the most effective improvement of the grounds around their homes, are being announced by the committee of the department of the Greenwood Garden Club that sponsored the contest. The committee this year was composed of Mrs. John T. Wells, chairman, Mrs. W. L. Craig, president of the Greenwood Garden Club, and Mrs. Earl Kinnebrew.

The first prize for the best kept yard and the most attractive arrangement of the garden went to Florence Lacy, wife of Henry Lacy, 401 Avenue A. Those receiving honorable mention were: Myrtle Jordan, Dela Cunningham, Rosa Hudson, Emma Cage, Donnie Harris, Matt Saffold, George Giles, Narcissis Fagan, Sally Jolliff, and Caroline Coleman.

The committee for judging the yards announces that they are greatly encouraged with the interest shown and work accomplished in this section of the city.

The department for work among the negroes is one of the most active and constructive departments of the Garden Club. This department was created to instruct and encourage the colored people in the beautification of their own property and their part of the city, and much has been done under the capable chairmanship of Mrs. Wells.

Mrs. Wells will be glad to take the names of those who wish to enter the contest another season.

Yazoo City, Miss. Herald
October 28, 1938

# 350 Members Set As Colored Quota

## D. W. Lindsey Named To Head Red Cross Drive Among Negroes

Chris Henick, Roll Call chairman of the Yazoo County Chapter of the American Red Cross, has appointed D. W. Lindsey, colored county agent, as the worker among Yazoo County colored people for this year's Red Cross drive.

Lindsey has organized his committee and has delivered supplies to all county colored teachers and plantation owners, and they in turn are soliciting members in the neighborhoods where they live.

"The colored membership quota of the Red Cross this year for Yazoo County is 350 members, and Lindsey states he is sure of this goal being reached," says Miss Ruth Bunch, executive secretary of the Yazoo County Chapter.

Greenville, Miss. Democrat Times
October 26, 1938

# Negro Employes Of 3 Firms Join Red Cross 100%

Dr. L. DeLaine, general chairman of the Colored Red Cross Roll Call, announces the colored employes of the following firms 100 per cent membership in Red Cross:

Delta Implement Company: Melvin Richardson $1.00, Dudley Crayton $1.00, Elmer Ridley $1.00, Willie Nelson $1.00, John Beard $1.00, Andrew Gordan $1.00, Elec Lee $1.00.

Wiley Electric Company—Jeff Brown $1.00, and Richard White $1.00.

Greenley's—Jo[illegible] Sweetner $1 Nath[illegible] Young $1, Draton Sweetner $1.00.

Contributions were made from employes of Gilmon Ice Cream Company as follows: Willie Gillespie 50c, Arthur Brown 50c, Henry Lane 50c.

2 of 3

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

Mississippi.

Aberdeen, Miss. Examiner
August 25, 1938

## NEGRO H. D. CLUB ATTEND STATE CLUB CAMP AT GULFSIDE, WAVELAND, MISS.

The Monroe County Negro H. D Agent and 22 women attended the State Club Camp at Gulfside, Aug 15—20. This group left Aberdeen Sunday, Aug. 14, 9:15 A. M. by bus, arrived at Waveland, Monday 12:30 P. M. The trip was a very pleasant and enjoyable one.

The camp opened Monday, Aug. 15, with supper. Closed Saturday, Aug. 20 with breakfast.

The objective: were Rest, Recreative fun, Inspiration and Culture.

Dr. Galpin of the U. S. Department of Agriculture says that, Relaxation and play open the valves of joy in the Soul, and joy recreates. Flushes the system of its work poisons, sets hope on a pinnacle again revives self respect tolerance of other people, and puts zest into living.

The program was in the nature of a Pageant portraying in Crafts, Arts, picture appreciation, singing, reading, stunts, and games.

Dr. M. S. Davage, president of Clark University, Atlanta, Ga. was principal speaker, subject: "The Negro in the City."

Monroe County played well her part and the agent is due credit for the work of the Monroe County Clubs.

The women were so enthused that they have already began making plans or preparations for the camp another year; because Gulfside is the place where old friends meet and new ones are made. It's the place where every one wears a smile. When you go to Gulfside you will have to leave all your troubles at home with your husbands, children and friends, they will banish them to an island reserved for worries before you return.

The State Agents and State Recreational leaders wish to express to each man, woman, boy and girl who took part on the program their thanks and appreciation for those splendid program.

Jackson, Miss. Daily Clarion Ledger
December 29, 1938

# NEGROES HELPED BY CHEER CLUB

## Needy Colored People In Jackson Appreciate Contributions

The Jackson Negro Christmas Cheer club reports that it has just closed its most successful year in the distribution of cheer to the needy negroes of Jackson. Dr. S. D. Redmond president of this club says that they distributed 957 baskets of food from St. Marks Episcopal church within the past four days to the needy negroes and also put on a big Christmas tree for the children of the needy at Lanier High school Redmond says that $1657.15 worth of groceries in this way were distributed to 957 families and he estimates that some 3,800 persons were benefited.

Dr. Redmond says that he does not believe that Jackson has been excelled anywhere in the country this year in a cause of this kind by a city the size of Jackson. Redmond says that this charity was most worthily bestowed since he finds that there is much suffering in Jackson at this time.

Redmonds says that when he saw this great horde of old and decrepit negro men and women crowding for a place that they might receive this small allotment of food he was forced to conclude that the crowning feature of President Roosevelt's administration will be his Social Security Act.

The club makes the following as their final report:

Additional cash received T. M. Hederman $5.00; Mrs. Amanda Brown $1.00; National Life and Casualty Co. $1.00; Dr. A. H. McCoy $1.00; Percy Clifton $1.00; Miss Gladys Eyrich $1.00; Smith Robertson School $4.65; Chester Owens $1.00; Judge Luther Manship $3.00; Harris Collins $10.00; R. E. Morgan $1.00; Joseph Bros; $1.00; Manhattan Hat Co. $1.00; John W Nichols $.50; New Hope Baptist Church $3.00; J. M. Clark $1.00; Acme Bakery Co. an additional 150 loaves of bread; Commodities from other sources, $850.00.

Cash and commodities heretofore reported—$755.50; Total cash and commodities received—$1,657.15.

The club extends special thanks to the Clarion Ledger and the Daily News for the splendid assistance rendered through most liberal publication Said Redmond: "It would have been absolutely impossible for us to have put this program over without these two great papers

The other officers of this club are: Helen Allen, secretary; C. L. Barnes, treasurer; Lucile F. Price, secretary of finance committee; O. B. Cobbins, investigator; Rev. A. B. Keeling, Rev. A. L. Holland and Rev. C. A. Greer, supervisors of distribution.

The club also expressed most sincere thanks for the very great assistance rendered them by Mrs. Ann Bogan Secretary of the Community Welfare Association of Jackson

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938 Missouri.

# Tandy Center To Be Dedicated Sun.

Argus 5-12-38 St. Louis, Mo.

## Impressive Ceremonies To Mark Opening Of New Edifice

Everything is now ready for the formal dedication of the Tandy Community Center, which will take place Sunday afternoon, May 15 at 3 o'clock. The ceremonies will be preceded by a mammoth parade in which thousands of youths including the pupils of Sumner and Vashon high schools, Marshall and Simmons schools, boy and girl scouts and labor and political groups will participate.

The dedicatory address will be given by Alfred C. Anderson, Director of Physical Education and Recreation of the St. Louis public schools. Introductory remarks will be made by His Honor, Bernard F. Dickmann, Mayor of St. Louis; Joseph M. Darst, Director of Public Welfare. Congratulatory addresses (brief) will be made by Dr. H. J. Gerling, Superintendent of Instruction Board of Education; Nelson Cunliff, former Director of Public Welfare; Dr. George E. Tolley, chairman, Interracial Committee; Dr. Williams L. Perry, pastor. Antioch Baptist church; Mr. W. Rufus Jackson, Postmaster of St. Louis; Mr. O. O. Morris, Pine Street Department YMCA; Miss Anna Lee Hill, Wheatley Branch YWCA; Rev. Jonathan A. Dames, pastor St. James AME church; Mrs. Lucian Sims; John T. Clark, secretary of the Urban League; Fr. D. R. Clarke, rector of All Saints church; and Scott R. McKins Chamber of Commerce; Frank L. Williams, principal of Vashon high school, will preside.

Music will be conducted by C. Spencer Tocus, Wirt D. Walton and Clarence H. Wilson.

### Community Center

The dedication of this building, which is the finest community center of its kind in the country is regarded as one of the high lights in Mayor Dickmann's administration. Being located in a community largely populated by the colored people, it is especially beneficial to that group. It may be stated here that the Vashon Community Center and the proposed Gamble Community Center, both of which are in Negro communities, are interesting accomplishments under the present city administrator.

# TO DEDICATE TANDY CENTER NEXT SUNDAY

Call 5-13-38 Kansas City, Mo.

## On May 15 to Have Parade, Music, Speeches in Gala Ceremony

ST. LOUIS —(Special)— A committee selected by Mayor Bernard F. Dickmann is making plans for the reception of several thousand St. Louisans at the dedication Sunday, May 15, of the new $187,000 Tandy recreational center at Kennerly and Goode avenues.

The center, located just west of the $4,000,000 Homer Phillips hospital that was dedicated a year ago, has been completed and will open immediately after the formal services Sunday afternoon.

### To Hold Parade

A parade, music by a mammoth chorus and speeches by recreational experts will make the grand opening a gala affair with many of the city's prominent citizens in attendance.

Frank L. Williams, chairman, with the assistance of other committee members, will have all arrangements for the day completed in time for next Friday's issue of The Call.

Organizations interested in being represented in the parade are requested to see J. E. Cook at the Pine Street Y.M.C.A.

## The Truth At Last

Stanley High, chief of the Good Neighbor League which played a conspicuous part in the reelection of Franklin D. Roosevelt writes in the Saturday Evening Post:

Call

"There is, so far as I know, no northern city in which Negroes are not obliged to pay considerably more for decidedly poorer quarters than any other section of the population. Negro tenants in Chicago, for instance, pay from eight to twenty dollars per month for the same room for which previous white tenants had paid from four to five dollars."

5-27-38 Kansas City, Mo.

There is the unvarnished truth. Negroes have known it, because that was their experience. In every city properties are advertised for rent and for sale to whites at prices which Negroes cannot duplicate. Yet whenever housing is under discussion, the whites who would restrict properties against ownership or occupancy by Negroes, claim they cheapen property. The truth is such houses as Negroes can get are already cheap.

It is standard practice for the decadent districts to be turned over to Negroes, at a price based upon the original cost of the improvements. No allowance is made for depreciation. They must pay for old houses, with outmoded facilities as much as whites pay for the latest and best. Furthermore they pay it with factories and junk yards for neighbors.

Saying that housing is made cheap by Negroes, does not lead whites to put a cheap price on it. Quite the contrary, they raise the price, and then explain that the excessive profit is justified by the extra risk. American practice exemplifies the Bible saying that from him that hath not shall be taken even that which he hath.

Where Negroes do not take over the former homes of the better-to-do whites, they must be content with housing that is palpably cheap, shells of paper and plaster that freeze them in winter and parboil them in summer. Always at the same high price.

Negroes cannot build homes themselves. Banks charge them higher rates of interest, and discount their mortgage paper at a higher rate. Insurance companies add to the premiums, explaining that it is because the neighborhoods into which public opinion forces Negroes are greater risks.

America has no greater shame than the extortionate charges it makes a Negro pay for a home. It damns him body and soul for profit. Real estate bodies talk about saving property values for whites by excluding Negroes. At the same time they price Negroes' houses by the month and collect it by the week, a grab that nets them 8 per cent.

Any landlord who is soulless enough to squeeze out the last dollar of profit, can make 20% out of the cheaper type of Negro housing, and they are doing it. All this effort at restricting Negroes into certain districts is not to save white properties. A good part of it is calculating greed herding its victims.

While we recognize the weight of authority in this article of Stanley High's, yet it will have to be repeated many times before lame truth will catch up with nimble falsehood. Too much money is invested; prejudice is too deeply ingrained; indifference to Negroes' welfare is too much the American habit. Good conscience, intelligent self-interest born of a realization that health and morality are held in common throughout a community, respect for the high principles expressed in the law are way behind.

Somehow or other good living must be made possible for all the people. Every man free to get a better home, when he chooses. Up to now the public has gotten its opinions from real estate boards and greedy landlords. It has assumed that in housing as in labor, it is duty bound to keep the Negro in his place, the worst one possible. The Negro is doing his part. Now let the public meet him half-way.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938 National Conference of Social Work.

# Attendance Slim at Conference on Social Work

SEATTLE, Wash. (ANP.) — The sixty-fifth annual meeting of the National Conference of Social Work closed on Saturday. Among the 3,500 delegates were the following colored delegates, a far smaller number than usual:

Lawrence A. Oxley, D.C. Department of Labor; Joseph H. B. Evans, Farm Security Board, both of Washington, D.C.; Dr. M. O. Bousfield, F. L. Turner, Mrs. Adele H. Gray, Miss Julia Boykin, Mrs. A. R. Fleming, and Miss Madge Carton, all of Chicago, O.

Nolle R. Smith, Dr. W. S. Wood, Honolulu, Hawaii; Mrs. Nellie Brown and her daughter, Miss Marjorie Brown, Nimrod B. Allen, and Jesse Jackson, Columbus, Ohio; Bernard Squires, S. D. Rhone, and Mrs. Rhone Woodson, Omaha, Nebr.

Mrs. Audre McCullough, Mrs. Marjorie Wormley Curry, and Miss Mary Hugg, Minneapolis, Minn.; Mrs. Ednah R. Boutte, New York; Mrs. Irma Neal, Henry Rowlings, N.C.; Miss Loutelio Quinn, Cleveland, Ohio; and Miss Goldie Mitchell, Norfolk, Va.

Although the attendance record of the past was not even approximated, and many prominent persons found the distance too far to attend the sessions in Seattle, colored delegates and citizens alike were disappointed in the absence of the National Urban League officers.

Forrester B. Washington of Atlanta, Ga., as second vice-president, would have presided at all the meetings in the absence of the president, Solomon Lowenstein, who was too ill to make the trip. Lester Granger was programmed to speak, but did not appear.

Lieut. Oxley and Joseph H. B. Evans both gave radio talks.

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938

National Council of Negro Women.

# 65 WOMEN LAY REQUESTS BEFORE MRS. ROOSEVELT; CONFER AT WHITE HOUSE

## GROUP SEEKS BETTER GOV. POSITIONS

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—A request that Negro women be given greater representation and appointed to federal bureaus whose work affects them was made to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the president, and other government officials by a special committee which called in the East Room of the White House on Monday afternoon.

This conference with the nations's First Lady was the result of a special meeting of the National Council of Negro Women, of which Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune of the NYA is founder and president, held Monday morning in the Auditorium of the Department of Interior at which 65 leading colored women from all parts of the country were in attendance.

Pointing out that America's colored women were anxious to cooperate in all federal programs and that only the appointment of Nego women to social bureaus and agencies could adequately care for the peculiar and specific problems of the race's women and children, the council asked:

**1. Appointment of a capable woman to an administrative position in the Children's bureau;**

**2. Employment of an administrative officer, physicians, medical service workers, public health nurses and nutritionists to the Bureau of Public Health Service, which now has only one Negro health officer;**

**3. Appointment of a woman, familiar with labor problems and the economic and industrial situation, to the Women's bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor;**

**4 Appointment of a woman staff-member in each department of the Bureau of Education whose program is concerned with the educational well-being of women and children;**

**5. That President Roosevelt, as ex-officio head of the American Red Cross, suggest that the organization immediately appoint an administrator to integrate the American Negro into the activities of the Red Cross;**

**6. Appointment of a qualified woman in an administrative capacity to the Federal Housing Administration and United States Housing Authority;**

**7. Placing of a trained womtion on the the Social Security Board.**

Several of the colored men now holding important administrative posts in the federal government were presented Monday morning to the friends and delegates of the conference by Mrs. Bethune. Among them were Lawrence A. Oxley, field representative U. S Employment Service; Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Special Assistant to Nathan Straus, Administrator of the U. S. Housing Authority; and Dr. Frank S. Horne, formerly assistant to Mrs. Bethune in the NYA, but assistant to Dr. Weaver.

The committee appointed to formulate the findings of the council for presentation to Mrs. Roosevelt at the afternoon session was composed of Attorney Sadie T. M. Alexander, Philadelphia; Mrs. Bessye J. Bearden, New York City; Miss W. Gertrude Brown, Minneapolis; Mrs. Mayme Osby-Brown, New Orleans; Atty. Eunice Hunton Carter, New York; Dr. Dorothy Ferebee, Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Helen Grossley, Dover Del.; Mrs. Bertha Perry Rhodes, Philadelphia; Mrs. Sue Bailey Thurman, Washington D.C.; Mrs. Blanche Armwood Washington, D.C.; and Mrs. Clara B. Bruce, New York City, chairman.

The afternoon session was held in the East Room of the White House at which time the delegates were received by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. Many heads of federal departments and bureaus were present, including Mrs. Ellen S. Woodward, Assistant Administrator of the WPA; Dr. Louise Stanley of the Department of Agriculture; Miss Mary Anderson of the Women's Bureau; Miss Katherine Lenroot of the Children's Bureau; Mrs. Atha C. Jordan of the NYA; and Miss Mary Dewson of the Social Security Board. A presentation of the findings of the conference was made by Mrs. Clara B. Bruce, executive secretary of the National Council of Negro Women. Two minute talks each on various problems affecting Negro women were given by Mrs. Mabel Keaton Staupers of New York City; Dr. Sarah Brown of Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Maud Coleman, Harrisburg, Pa.; Atty. Eunice Hunton Carter, Assistant to the District Attorney of New York City; Atty. Sadie T. M. Alexander of Philadelphia; Mrs. John Hope of Georgia; Miss Mary Williams of Alabama; Mrs. Addie W. Dickerson of Philadelphia; Miss Arenia C. Mallory of Mississippi; Mrs. Margaret Davis Bowen of Lousiana; Mrs. Mary Jackson McCrory of North Caroline; Mrs. Addie W. Hunton of New York City; Mrs. Sue Bailey Thurman of Washington, D.C.; and Mrs. Jennie McGuire of Washington, D. C.

Every member of the conference appreciated the sympathetic, understanding attitude of Mrs. Roosevelt toward problems facing Negro women. The delegates made it clear that they did not come with palm outstretched at mere recipients but came with an abiding belief in the value of the contribution that capable, well trained Negro women could make in the planning and carrying out the federal programs for social betterment.

The statement was made by Mrs. Atha C. Jordan, NYA administrative assistant, that the experiment of placing a Negro woman, Mary McLeod Bethune, in a strategic administrative position in the NYA had helped immeasurably in that department.

# Women Seek More Federal Positions

## Mrs. Roosevelt Is Approached By Race Leaders

4-16-38

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This conference with the nation's First Lady was the result of a special meeting of the National Council of Negro Women, of which Dr Mary McLeod Bethune of the NYA is founder and president, held April 4 in the Auditorium of the Department of the Interior at which 65 leading colored women from all parts of the country were in attendance.

### 7-POINT PROGRAM

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### NAME COMMITTEE

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The statement was made by Mrs. Atha C. Jordan, NYA administrative assistant, that the experiment of placing a Negro woman, Mary McLeod Bethune, in a strategic administrative position in the NYA had helped immeasurably in that department.

# *Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune Calls White House Meeting*

By KELLY MILLER

MRS. MARY McLeod Bethune recently called a conference of the National Council of Negro Women, of which she is founder and president, which convened at the White House Monday, April 4, 1938. The conference was addressed by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and other distinguished women holding high positions in various branches and bureaus of the Federal Government. From the beginning Mrs. Roosevelt has shown a lively interest in Mrs. Bethune and her work for the elevation of the colored race.

Sixty-five representative colored women from all sections of the United States were in attendance. A careful scanning of the list reveals the names of prominent women leaders from all parts of the country in the varied fields of activity.

## WOMEN HIGH IN NEW DEAL

The New Deal strives to extend the functions of government to the forgotten woman as well as to the fogotten man. For the first time in our political history members of the female sex have been appointed to the highest governmental stations such as, Cabinet Officers, Ministers to Foreign Courts, as well as heads of governmental bureaus and departmental bureaus and departments. The liberal purpose of the administration is markedly manifest towards the so-called weaker sex.

**The colored woman has not been forgotten in Mr. Roosevelt's liberal program. For the first time in our history the colored woman has been assigned to an influential post under the Federal Government. More than a year ago Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune was made Director of Negro Affairs in the Department of the National Youth Administration.**

The needs and requirements of Negro Youth represent the most vital feature of the race problem at this critical time. The selection of Mrs. Bethune to head up this vital work indicates the confidence which the government imposes in her as representative of her people in this important National task.

President Theodore Roosevelt appointed William H. Lewis of Boston, as Assistant Attorney General of Boston, which established a precedent which his successors were either unable or unwilling to follow. The assignment of colored men as special assistants in several departments of the government was inaugurated by President Wilson, during the progress of the World War.

Dr. Emmett J. Scott was made special assistant in the War Department and charged with the delicate and responsible task of keeping Negro sentiment aligned with the spirit and purpose of the War. Dr. George Edmund Haynes was given a similar assignment in the Department of Labor. The Bureau of Commerce placed a colored man in charge of specific Negro Interest. From these predecessors this has become a fixed policy of the government.

## OUTDONE PREDECESSORS

President Roosevelt has far exceeded the limits set by his predecessors, and placed colored men and women in charge of Negro affairs in the departments of, Interior, Justice, Commerce, Labor and Agriculture. In addition to these, special Negro representatives have been assigned to the office of Education, the National Youth Administration and the Census Office.

It is of the nature of the politician to belittle and decry the efforts of the opposing party. Negro Republican critics are in the habit of saying that these Negro attaches are mere figure heads and have no function and form no positive racial service. All subordinate employees in the government, to employ Roosevelt's phraseology must have a passion for an anonymity. Their personal ambition is absorbed in the service of the departments which they represent. The lighted candle is placed unde a bushel.

Such Negro representatives as Ambrose Caliver of the Bureau of Education, Eugene Kinckle Jones of the Department of Commerce, Robert Weaver of the Interior Department, Lawrence A. Oxley of the Department of Labor, and William Houston of the Department of Justice, are rendering satisfactory and efficient service in their several fields although there is little advertisement of their work in the press and on the platform.

## DOES EFFECTIVE WORK

But Mrs. Bethune's lighted candle shines so brightly that it must needs to be placed on a candle stick and giveth light to all who are within the household of her sphere of activity. By virtue of her dynamic personality, the director of Negro Affairs of the National Youth Administration, was given as it were a cart blanche. An anonymity and Mary McLeod Bethune can never go together.

**We all recall the National Conference on the Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth which brought together one hundred colored men and women from various fields of racial activity and endeavor and deliberated for three days without fuss or friction and drew up an agenda of things which can be accomplished in whole or in part by action of the Executive and Legislative branches of the Federal Government. These findings received a more general public approval and acceptance than any of the other race wide conferences of recent years.**

The personnel of the present conference was confined to colored women and the agenda was focused upon the needs of Negro Youth, with which women are vitally concerned. The findings show a genuineness, simplicity and race statesmanship which characterize all of Mrs. Bethune's undertakings.

In a release on the National Conference on The Problems of the Negro and Negro Youth, I referred to Mrs. Bethune as the logical successor of the late Booker T. Washington. She is acceptable to the white people of the South, the white people of the North, the Negro himself, and the government authorities to a degree and extent not equaled since the mantle of leadership fell from the shoulders of the great Tuskegeean.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

National Council of Negro Women
6

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Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

National Urban League.

# Annual Report of National Urban League Shows Successful Year

## New Branches Opened In Memphis, Little Rock; Increase Workers On U. S. Projects

The work of the National Urban League for 1937 covered many phases of social service. During the past year it was successful in establishing two new branches—one at Memphis and another at Little Rock. The League was also active in stamping out practices of discrimination among Negro flood sufferers during the flood in the spring of the year.

It sent its southern field representative through the stricken area to confer with Red Cross officials. As a result of the investigations and conferences, the Red Cross, through its national office, submitted a policy which will be followed in dealing with Negro sufferers in future disasters. This policy favors the employment of Negro doctors, nurses, and social workers.

Other activities of the League included the extension of Workers' Councils through which workers were able to attend institutes to receive training in labor problems and labor union philosophy. Through the councils many Negroes have been placed on projects where they had been excluded, and workers in several cities have received charters from labor unions.

In Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the League completed a study of social conditions among Negroes and submitted it to the North Carolina Interracial Committee. The research department has made studies of, and has on file information dealing with an analysis of retail businesses owned and operated by Negroes; household employment among Negroes; data on WPA workers; an analysis of Negro housing in New York City, and many other related subjects.

During 1937 the League reached 76,022 students in 23 states through its Fifth Vocational Opportunity Campaign conducted by the Department of Industrial Relations. The industrial and placement services of local Leagues have been responsible for the placement of many persons. The League has conducted civil service classes in the larger cities and many persons have been placed on the civil service lists, in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Texas, New York, and Arkansas.

Two fellowships for social work training are being maintained by the League—one at the University of Pittsburgh, and the other at the New York School of Social Work.

In addition to its other work, the Urban League has continued to publish Opportunity Magazine, whose contributors have included many distinguished writers.

# E. JONES URGES ON PLANS FOR BIG EXPANSION

## Executive Secretary Cites Method For Doubling Field Operations

9-10-38

JACKSON, Mich., Sept. 9—A five-year program of expansion for the Urban League movement was outlined at the annual conference of the National Urban League held at Green Pastures camp, near here last week, by Eugene Kinckle Jones, the League's executive secretary.

Mr. Jones asked representatives of the 44 branches of the league to join together in enlarging its program of organization and of service to the Negro community. Its field of operations, he said, could be virtually doubled within a five-year period. The cost of this expansion, he indicated, would be nominal in view of the experience of its officers and the crystallization of its program through the years.

### A National Program

Mr. Jones also expressed the hope that the work of the league might be further enlarged by the establishment of a national program to help elevate the economic and social status of the household employee and the establishment of a personnel and guidance bureau to provide occupational information and service to Negroes.

Continuing, he especially urged the assembled Urban League executives to continue the coming year their efforts to have Negroes appointed to policy-making and planning boards, national, state and local.

"We have made distinct gains in this direction," he said. "During the past four years almost 100 Urban League employees and former fellowship holders have been appointed to public positions numbering more than 200 different positions, to say nothing of numerous other appointments which have been made of board members and of leaders to positions at the instance of the Urban League movement."

### T. A. Hill Speaks

T. Arnold Hill, director of the league's department of industrial relations, told the assembled executives that the National Urban League intended soon to revive the industrial campaigns that were successfully carried on some years ago, when officials of the national office would go into communities periodically and hold vocational "revival meetings" in an effort to secure more job opportunities for Negroes.

"The experiences of the past few years, especially those of white and colored persons working together in peace and harmony on emergency work projects of all types, must not be lost," he said. "We must build upon these experinces in industry, in order that their effect not be lost in the coming return of workers to private employment."

### Activity in South

Jesse C. Thomas, southern field director of the league, told of the work of the league in the southern states. "The Urban League has a better opportunity than ever before to organize in southern communities," he said, "and the need for a program of Urban League expansion is greater than ever before now that the practical ineffectiveness of such an organization as the Interracial Commission has been questioned."

He outlined the efforts made during the past six months to establish a branch of the league in New Orleans, and urged that steps be taken as soon as possible to set up branches of the league in such cities as Nashville, Tenn.; Houston, Tex.; Oklahoma City, Okla.; Charleston, S. C.; Birmingham, Ala., and Durham. N. C.

# URBAN LEAGUE PLANNING 21ST ANNIVERSARY

## Dr. Mordecai Johnson and Vassar College President to Speak At Roger Smith Hotel.

12-31-37

NEW YORK, Dec. 29—Dr. Mordecai Johnson of Howard University and Dr. Henry Noble McCracken, president of Vassar College, will be principal speakers at the annual dinner given by the New York Urban League on January 11 at The Roger Smith Hotel, 40 E. 41st street.

This will be the twenty-first anniversary of the founding of the Urban League and plans for an outstanding dinner have been prepared.

Various activities of the League will be discussed, particularly the work done in the past year in securing employment for the race.

# Five-Year Program For Urban League

## Expansion Program Planned

### Eugene Kinckle Jones Outlines 5-Year Plan

Daily Word

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**PEACE, HARMONY**

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# Urban League Head Plans 5-Year Expansion Program

JACKSON, Michigan, Sept.—A five-year program of expansion for the Urban League movement was outlined at the annual conference of the National Urban League held at Green Pastures Camp near here, last week, by Eugene Kinckle Jones, the League's executive secretary.

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Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938 National Urban League 6

# Plight Of Race Economic Barometer

## Thinking Change In Progress Carter Points Out

NEW YORK, N.Y.—A never failing barometer of the nation's economic condition is the social plight of the Negro, Eugene Kinckle Jones executive secretary of the National Urban League, declared at the 27th annual meeting of the League held on Feb. 9 at the Russell Sage Foundation.

The statement was made in the secretary's report of the work of the League during 1937. "When the Negro begins to lose employment in ever-increasing numbers, the first evidence of lowering business activity has appeared," Mr. Jones said.

"When white men and women begin to secure jobs and to pass dividends to investors, without the Negro, as a group, receiving any appreciable increase from their economic disabilities, it is time for the nation to rejoice.

"Just as in the days of Lincoln, it was not possible for one part of the population to remain in physical slavery while another part was free, so now it is not possible for one part of the population to have economic prosperity and another part to be doomed by economic desuetude."

Mr. Jones further cited the activities of the organization in its work of vocational guidance for colored youth; a study of housing conditions of Negroes in New York City; efforts to stimulate interest of Negroes in Civil Service examinations; the publication of its magazine, Opportunity—Journal of Negro Life, as well as service to the sufferers in the Ohio and Mississippi Valley flood diaster of the early spring.

Elmer Anderson Carter, Editor of Opportunity—Journal of Negro Life—and recent appointee by Governor Lehman to the Unemployment Insurance Appeal Board of the State Department of Labor declared that "The Negro in America is undergoing a change a profound change in his thinking, a change in the method of his approach to a solution of his problems. For three-quarters of a century he sought amelioration of his social and economic ills largely through an appeal to the so-called better element in the community. He based his appeal on pity or tolerance or the vanishing sympathies of the descendants of the abolitionists.

"But today the Negro is seeking to better his condition by another method, which requires neither apology for his racial identity nor masked chagrin for his racial status.

### SOLUTION SOUGHT

"The Negro is beginning to see his problem in the light of the problem of this Democracy and to seek their solution not as an isolated group with difficulties peculiar to itself, but as a segment of a larger group which essentially must solve the same problems. These problems are those that arise out of poverty—the unequal distribution of wealth. They are problems of wages and hours and economic opportunity—of housing and health and the use of leisure time. And in the rural areas, especially of the South, they are problems of land tenure and tenancy and farm ownership."

Paul R. Williams, architect of Los Angeles, California, was elected to the executive board, and the following persons were re-elected—all for terms of three years: Pearl S. Buck, Caroline S. Chapin M. O. Bousfield, Mrs. A. H Schoellkopf, William H. Baldwin John W. Davis, James H. Dillard Fred R. Moore, Graham R. Taylor A. Clayton Powell, Sr., Hubert T. Delany, and Miss Nannie H. Burroughs.

The officers of the league elected for one year were: L. Hollingsworth Wood, president; Lloyd Garrison, vice-president; William H. Baldwin, secretary; Justice Charles Poletti, treasurer; and Miss Dorothy Straus, assistant treasurer.

# NEGROES IN SOUTH GET PUBLIC WORK

## Several Civil Service Rolls Admit Them for First Time, the Urban League Reports

## $410,548 BUDGET IN 1937

## Local Agencies Spent $347,955 of Total—New Branch Started in Little Rock, Ark.

As a result of the work of the National Urban League, Negroes will be engaged as civil service employes in several Southern States for the first time, Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive secretary of the League, declared in the twenty-seventh annual report just made public.

The national and local Urban Leagues spent $410,548 last year, the report disclosed, and the national organization has spent $1,279,985 to finance activities in its twenty-seven years of existence. The local leagues in more than forty cities spent $347,955 of last year's total.

The league sent out many announcements of civil service jobs available to Negroes, conducted classes and assembled at its national and local offices materials used by Negro applicants in preparing for civil service examinations, Mr. Jones reported.

"The results have justified far beyond our expectations the effort put into this innovation," he went on. "In New York, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Georgia, Arkansas and in several other States, as well as in the Federal Government, many Negroes have been placed on civil service lists. In several Southern States, for the first time, Negroes will be engaged as civil service employes."

During the year the league added Greater Little Rock, Ark., as a full-fledged affiliate, groundwork was laid in four other cities and preliminary steps were taken in seven more, according to the report. Since major American social movements are projected from the cities, Mr. Jones declared, "it is to be expected that the solution of the problem of race in America will emanate from the city."

The report also told of work in training Negro workers in labor problems and labor union philosophy, of research reports on Negro problems and conferences held by the league. Mr. Jones declared that "it is our dream to find support for a five-year program at a total cost of $250,000, involving the employment of five field representatives and a field supervisor."

# Politics Looms as Threat to Social Service

## Forrester Washington Cites Danger at League Dinner

BALTIMORE.

The most pressing danger to the economic and social status of the colored group in the present crisis is the tightening grip the politicians are getting on the Federal, State and municipal public assistance agencies which developed out of the depression, Forrester B. Washington, director of the Atlanta School of Social Work, told the annual dinner meeting of the Baltimore Urban League, Thursday night.

Colored people as a minority group are helpless to protect themselves against the greedy avalanche of politicians, he said, and pointed to Pennsylvania as an example of what is happening in the matter of relief, social security, and other governmental welfare agencies.

### Control Passes

It is clear, Mr. Washington said, that these agencies are passing from control of professional social service workers and coming more and more under the domination of the politicians.

With millions of dollars to distribute and millions of jobs to portion out, it is clear that the law of political expediency rather than honest and fair administration will be the determinant.

### Called Grave Crisis

Because of the fact that the colored group in America has been the first fired and last hired in all times of economic stress, they are comprising a larger and larger proportion of those in the public assistance set-up.

**Recently, he said, when the politicians shoved a professional social service worker out in the Pennsylvania Social Security set-up and put politicians in charge, for the first time it was recommended that colored people on relief be paid a smaller proportionate amount than whites.**

Turning to Marse S. Callaway, who sat at the speaker's table, he praised the Baltimore leader, referring to him as the right kind of politician who had organized a pressure group from top to bottom. He stated, however, that if Mr. Callaway succeeded in keeping the more selfish type from dominating his organization, he would be a rare individual.

### Urge Colored Workers

Mr. Washington urged the use of colored workers in social set-ups. There should be colored board members, he said, because they can act without influence of intimidation.

Because of the fact that colored people, subject to discrimination and oppression, had developed a survival strategy, no white social workers could penetrate into conditions and be as efficient in social service work as colored workers.

The dinner was presided over by H. Milton Wagner, Jr., president of the Baltimore Urban League.

### Gains Outlined

In his annual report, Edward S. Lewis pointed out gains the colored group had made in Baltimore, including the naming of a colored police woman and members of the group to several social service jobs.

Eugene Kinkle Jones, secretary of the national body, and T. Arnold Hill, industrial secretary, came down from New York to attend the dinner. Judge Joseph N. Ulman, former president of the Baltimore branch, was given an ovation.

### Coppin Sextet Sings

Music for the occasion was furnished by the Coppin Normal sextet under the direction of Miss Dukye Woode. William Franklin, child reader, presented two numbers which brought forth considerable applause. Mr. Washington was introduced by Paul Beisser, a former classmate and now director of Henry Watson Children's Aid Society.

Mrs. Augusta Chissell, chairman of the woman's auxiliary of the league, will retire, it was announced, and Mrs. Violet Hill Whyte will succeed her.

# LESTER GRANGER TAKES NEW JOB

NEW YORK CITY—(ANP)—The National Urban league announced this week the transfer of Lester B. Granger from the league's workers' bureau where he has served as secretary for four years, to the staff of the welfare council of New York City. Granger's duties with the welfare council, as secretary of committee on Negro welfare, will be to study existing social service facilities available to the colored population of greater New York, with a view to strengthening and coordinating those services and planning for the creation of new services where the need exists.

# Urban League

*By* JESSE O. THOMAS

*The purpose of the Bulletin is to chronicle the worthwhile things done for, by, and with the Negro, as a basis of increasing inter-racial good-will and understanding.*

Welcome greetings are extended to the hundreds of young people who are entering or re-entering the several institutions of learning in the Gate City. They have come from many parts of the world, which is another indication of the direct influence Atlanta exerts upon state, national and world culture.

The twenty-eighth annual convention of the National Urban League was held at Green Pastures Camp, Mich., September 3, 4 and 5. This camp site is the gift of Senator Cousins, of Michigan, to the Detroit Urban League for the recreational development and pleasure of the underprivileged negro children in Detroit and Wayne county. The camp represents an investment of approximately $100,000.

It is situated some 80 miles from Detroit and approximately 15 miles from Jackson, Mich., in the hilly section of the state. It is well elevated and slopes down to a lake, which is utilized by the hundreds of children who go to the camp each summer as a bathing beach. Fishing and boating are other forms of recreation which this lake affords. At the base of the other slope of the hill is a large recreation field where softball, baseball and croquet may be played simultaneously.

The children's fund of Michigan allocates $12,000 a year for the operating expenses of this camp. The camp is in operation 12 weeks during the summer months, which means that $1,000 a week is spent in providing food, shelter and other necessities of life for the large number of children who are rotated on a two-week basis to the camp.

This is the second conference of the National Urban League held at this camp and the first session that has been confined to staff and board members of the league. Some 30 members of the executive board of the Pittsburgh Urban League were in attendance. The next local organization having the largest number of board members attending was the Detroit Urban League. From one to three members of the board of other local branches were among the conference delegates.

Another innovation in the program of the convention was the annexing of the clerical personnel as an organic part of the convention. One entire morning session was utilized by the clerical staff in offering constructive criticism and suggestions as to how their duties and responsibilities might be enhanced by a more clearly sympathetic understanding and working intelligence on the part of the executive secretary.

The theme of the conference was "The Urban League Looks Forward." Dr. Eugene Kinckle Jones, executive secretary, who was first to appear on the program, outlined a five-year plan which would double the number of league branches now in existence and increase the influence and usefulness of the organization to the American people 100 per cent. Several foundations have been approached with the request that such a plan as outlined might be included in any scheme to improve the economic wellbeing of negroes in the United States within the period indicated above.

Some of the subtopics discussed were "Expanding the Job Field," by T. Arnold Hill, director, department of industrial relations National Urban League; "The Southern Outlook," by the southern field director of the National Urban League; "Planning for Personnel Efficiency," by R. Maurice Moss, executive secretary of the Pittsburgh Urban League; "The Board, the Executive and the Community," by William R. Conners, executive secretary of the Negro Welfare League, Cleveland Ohio; "The Importance of the Office Secretary to the Proper Administration of a Social Work Agency," by Mrs. Philitus W. Joyce, assistant to the executive, National Urban League; "The Secretary, the Employer and Their Work," by Mrs. Christina F. Jeffries, assistant to the executive, Pittsburgh Urban League; "The Mechanics of the Job," by Miss Ann Tanneyhill, secretary to the director, department of industrial relations, National Urban League; "The Organization's Responsibility to the Clerical Staff," by Mrs. Theresa A. Greene, office secretary, Memorial Center and Urban League, Buffalo, N. Y.

"Public Interpretation and Publicity Methods," by Elmer Anderson Carter, editor Opportunity magazine and member social security board, New York state; "Block-Unit as a Means of Organizing the Community," by John T. Clark, executive secretary, Urban League of St. Louis; "Co-ordinating Public Service — Civil Service, Advisory Boards, Appointive Positions," by Robert J. Elzy, executive secretary, Brooklyn Urban League, and J. Harvey Kerns, director, division of negro welfare, Community Chests of Cincinnati and Hamilton county. "Job-Getting Through Pressure and Through Co-operation," by Sidney R. Williams, industrial secretary, Urban League of St. Louis, and A. L. Foster, executive secretary, Chicago Urban League. "Workers' Council—Urban League Relationships," by Lester B. Granger, secretary workers' bureau, National Urban League. "Importance and Function of Youth Movements," by Miss Pauline Redmond, director youth activities, Chicago Urban League. "Employment and Shelter in the Federal Housing Program," by Howard D. Gould, industrial secretary, Chicago Urban League, and Edward S. Lewis, executive secretary, Baltimore Urban League; "Public Health and the Negro," by Dr. M. O. Bousfield, director for negro health, Julius Rosenwald Fund, Chicago; "Labor Legislation and the Negro Worker," by Wayne L. Hopkins, executive secretary, Armstrong Association, Philadelphia.

Among the discussion leaders were J. S. Himes Jr., director of research, Columbus, Ohio, Urban League; J. A. Thomas, executive secretary Louisville Urban League; Wiley A. Hall, executive secretary, Richmond Urban League; William V. Kelley, executive secretary, Milwaukee Urban League, and John C. Dancy, executive secretary, Detroit Urban League.

From the point of view of attendance, discussion and scientific presentation of subjects assigned, this was probably the most fruitful and productive convention the league has held in its history.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

New Jersey.

# Appoint Commission To Study Urban Conditions Of Negro

## New Jersey Governor And Legislature Select Lawmakers And Citizens; Appropriate $30,000 For Work

TRENTON, N. J.—The membership of a State commisison to study living conditions of Negroes in urban sections of New Jersey was completed Friday when Senate President Loizeaux named his six appointees. The commission was created by the legislature to offer recommendations for improvement of the race and has a $30,000 appropriation.

The measure creating the commission was introduced in the House by Assemblyman Frank S. Hargrave from Essex County, who was later named to the body by Assembly Speaker Pascoe.

Loizeaux's appointees are: Senators Hendrickson of Gloucester, Stout of Hudson and Taggart of Atlantic; Dr. L. Greeley Brown of Elizabeth; Thomas L. Purvear, Newark, and Dr. William H. Valentine, principal of the manual training school at Bordentown.

Previously appointed by Governor Moore were James A. Lightfoot of Atlantic City, Roger M. Yancey, Newark, and Richard R. Smith, Jersey City.

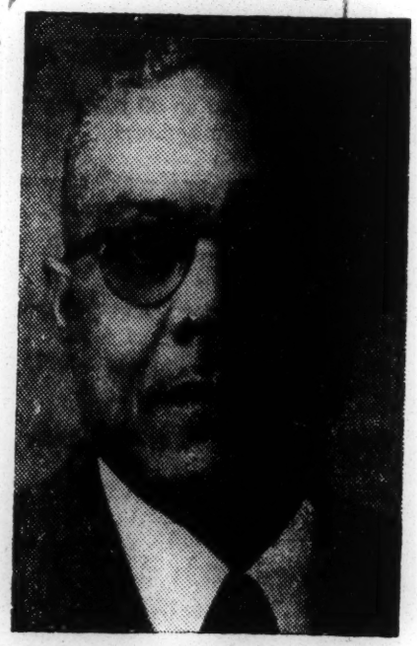
Assembly Speaker Pascoe's appointees, in addition to Assemblyman Hargrave, also included Assemblymen Haneman of Atlantic and Ward of Mercer; William Galloway of Rutherford, Evelyn V. Brock of Westfield, and Elizabeth Blake of Woodbury.

# Apex Head Buys Girls' Home

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J.—Mme. Sara S. Washington, Atlantic County committeewoman and president of the Apex Company, has purchased a twenty-two room house on Virginia Avenue, to be used as a community house for girls as a memorial to her mother, the late Mrs. Ellen Hunter.

The undertaking, Mrs. Washington said, will not only aid in bringing about better citizenship and afford mental and physical training, but will also give employment in carrying on the management of the home.

# Doctor Named On Project For Housing



DR. E. A. ROBINSON

ASBURY PARK, N. J.—Dr. E. A. Robinson of 140 Atkins avenue has been named member of the Asbury Park Housing Authority. He is president of the North Jersey Medical Association; chairman of the trustee board of St. Stevens AME Zion church, president of the Asbury Park Tennis Club and surgeon in charge of the local baby clinic. A graduate of Livingstone College and Howard University Medical School, Dr. Robinson also took special courses at New York University in pediatrics.

Asbury Park is the fifth city to name a colored man to the local housing authority. Other cities are Atlantic City, Orange, Camden and Newark.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938

New Jersey

# Politics Ties Up Lawnside Relief

LAWNSIDE, N. J.—Needy residents of this all-colored community went without relief last week, the result of a heated dispute between Republican and Democratic members of council.

The controversy hinged around the alleged refusal of Harold Bell Wright, ex-relief director, who was temporarily appointed by Republican Mayor J. Victor Adams, to surrender records of the relief office and minutes of Borough Council after Democratic members of council had elected a new relief director, Mrs. Mildred H. Farmer and a Borough clerk, Robert L. Demps.

Without these records, Mrs Farmer is powerless to receive any state WPA aid in carrying the heavy relief burden of the community.

Wright, who is a Republican, in defending his action, claimed that the Democratic-controlled council refused to pay him $145, he claims is due him for the month he served. Council members contend they did not appoint him and are therefore not obligated to pay him.

The disturbance, viewed as political, came after four Democrats replaced Republicans in the Borough Council to gain a majority.

The Democratic members of council are Sydney Whittington who is president, James Cheyney, William Carter, George W. Polk, while Republicans are 71-year old William Benson, and Augustus W. Wilmer.

# RACE LAWYER NAMED HEAD OF COMMISSION TO STUDY NEGROES

TRENTON, N. J., Sept. 15—Assemblyman Frank Hargraves, of Orange, was chosen chairman of the State Commission to investigate living and economic conditions of Negroes, at the commission's first organization meeting in the State House, Friday.

Senator Stout of Jersey City is vice-chairman; Mrs. Elizabeth Blake of Woodbridge, secretary. The commission decided to name a sociologist as director but failed to reveal his name at the first meeting. An attorney may also be selected, and, if so, the appointment is expected to be won by Attorney Oliver Randolph of Newark.

Commission members include Senators Hendrickson and Taggart, Assemblymen Hanneman and Ward, James A. Lightfoot of Atlantic City, Thomas L. Puryear and Roger M. Yancey of Newark, Richard R. Smith of Jersey City, William Galloway of Rutherford, Evelyn V. Brock of Westfield, Thomas G. Brown of Elizabeth and Dr. W. R. Valentine of Bordentown.

# PROFITS ARE SHOWN FOR NEGRO HOUSING

## Financial Report Is Issued on Atlantic City Project

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ATLANTIC CITY, Oct. 8.—A $9,930 profit for the first fourteen and a half months of operation of Stanley S. Holmes Village, $1,500,000 Federal housing project for Negroes on the Northside here, is shown in a financial statement issued by the United States Housing Authority in Washington.

Private realtors, many of whom have criticized the government project since its inception, however, still insist that it has not paid its way. They declare that if it paid taxes, like their own properties, the apparent profit would become a loss.

Rent totaling $103,773 was paid by the 277 Negro families during the period starting April 16, 1937, and ending at the close of the fiscal year, June 30, 1938. Other items brought the total income to $105,572. Expenses for management, office supplies, heating, water, electricity, gas, landscaping, painting and decorating, repairs, insurance and interest and principal payments totaled $95,642.

This figure also includes $1,000 set aside to be paid annually to the city for police. fire and school services. After having held out for more, the city now has accepted this amount. Altogether the village financial report shows $4,395 set aside as "payment in lieu of taxes."

Social Conditions, Improvement of -1938

New York

## New Manager

ROGER FLOOD,
member of the management staff of New York's Dunbar Apartments, who, last week was appointed manager of Harlem River House, the Government's low-cost housing project in New York, opened last fall. Flood succeeds Franklin O. Nichols, who was relieved of his post November 24. Nichols' dismissal caused considerable discussion among citizens. Flood's appointment to the post by the New York Housing Authority, followed a conference between the Authority and the project's Advisory Committee. Members of the committee include: Walter White, chairman; Earl Brown, Alan Dingle, Frances E. Rivers, Dr. Edward Best, Dr. C. B. Powell, James H. Hubert, Robert Elzy, John Wilson, Donelan Phillips, Mrs. Daisy Reid and Mrs. Minnie Green.

# URBAN LEAGUE WOULD HELP SOUTHERNERS

## Recommends Organization To Direct Newcomers In North

1-24-38 Daily Worker

NEW YORK. —(ANP)— In recommending a National information and service bureau with centers in regional sections of the South, to aid those now leaving and about to leave, James H. Hubert, executive director of the New York Urban League, in his address to the annual meeting of the league here last week, declared that the office of the league is being beseiged daily by increasing numbers of newcomers who are crowding in, and that the present migration, unlike that of the past, is without direction.

"Such a bureau," he said, "might be financed in part by the federal government, and should set up in rural sections of the south community centers for purposes of demonstrating how life may be made more tolerable for workers than they now are."

Hubert's report showed that the Guidance service, under the auspices of the board of education, handled 5,021 persons during the year 1937.

**Place 777 In Year**

In the industrial department, 777 placements for the year 1937 compared favorably with 749 placements in 1936.

"When we consider the number of persons handled daily in our other departments," Hubert said "these figures provide a fair estimate of the number of persons whose needs are daily brought to the attention of this organization."

Fannie Hurst, noted white author and student of economic and social problems, was another speaker, addressing the league in the celebration of its twentieth anniversary.

Miss Hurst advised, "The sooner the American Negro learns to seek his social and artistic expression as an American citizen first, and an American Negro second; the sooner the major race which surrounds him will find itself disarmed of the power to exploit him—The great hope of social justice for the American Negro lies in his ability to raise his mass voice as an American citizen."

**Hear Charlotte H. Brown**

Mrs. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, founder and president of the Palmer Memorial institute, Sedalia, N. C., addressing part of her speech to the white people present, declared:

"People have tried to tell me as they have tried to tell Negroes all over the country, that as long as you keep your place, you won't meet with these things (discrimination, Jim Crowism). If anybody will define to me what my place is in American life, you will make me happy.

"I certainly don't know it—and if there are other Negroes who know it, I wish they would tell me. It seems to me that my place in American life, that my place in the world, is any place for a human being—and that there is no superiority or inferiority, except as it is based on character and achievement. The philosophy of the Caucasian people must be based on human relationships."

# High Time for Action On Harlem Conditions

Daily Worker

The enforced discrimination and misery which are the special lot of the Negro people in New York have long been a matter of public knowledge.

But yesterday's report of the New York State Temporary Commission on the Condition of the Urban Colored Population touches the roots of this criminal situation—and reveals to what alarming proportions they have reached. 2-16-38

Among the evils which the report stressed were: the "unusually serious economic insecurity" of the Negro people; their colossal rate of unemployment; the frightful slum housing conditions; and widespread discrimination against the Negro population throughout the state.

New York

**Most important is the fact that the Commission branded the public utility monopolies for their point-blank refusal to employ Negroes in arrogant violation of State Civil Rights law, particularly Section 42. A typical example is the fact that out of 25,000 employes of the New York Telephone Company three are Negroes.**

**It is such fascist-like employment policies as this by the labor-hating monopolies that undoubtedly led to the Commission's finding that Negro workers earn an annual average income which is 50 per cent less than that earned by white workers. The income of the average Negro family throughout the state is "too low to maintain a healthful and decent standard of living," the report stated.**

These same monopolies and Economic Royalists threaten the well-being of the people of New York. Likewise, the Commission's finding that the state itself was "not free from criticism" is well, if mildly, placed. Too long have the Tammany obstructionists and the Liberty League stooges in the State Legislature been allowed to throw a corrupt shield of protection around these robbers of the people.

The corrective and progressive recommendations of the Commission should be widely supported along with their request for an extension of time to complete its commendable work. Moreover, the State Legislature should appropriate additional funds to the Commission as a democratic service to the entire people of the state.

The American Labor Party Assemblymen and other progressives in the State Legislature should make the proposals of the Commission a part of their state-wide progressive program.

Meanwhile, the people of Harlem — and throughout the city—should give the utmost and immediate support to these community actions in Harlem:

1. The Harlem Coordinating Committee on Employment which is now conducting a campaign for jobs against the utility monopolies.

2. The Harlem Legislative Conference—sponsored by Harlem's labor, Negro and progressive assemblymen—which is working to make the progressive recommendations of the Commission a living fact.

# LEGISLATURE GETS REPORT OF COMMISSION ON NEGRO

## Body Sends Proposals For Action; Seeks Funds To Continue Activities

ALBANY, N. Y.—The New York State Temporary Commission on the Condition of the Urban Colored Population, through its chairman, Assemblyman Harold P. Herman, transmitted its report to the State Legislature on Monday, February 14th, gave its findings in a 113-page brief, included 12 suggested acts for legislative consideration and sought by another act continuance of the Commission to March 1, 1939.

In submitting its report, the Commission stated:

"This report is more than a document of statistical research, it is an exposition of human situations and relationships with a description of community and individual reactions to those situations. While the Commission has no desire to indulge in dramatic over-statement, it does earnestly wish to impress upon your honorable bodies the extreme seriousness of the conditions which it has studied. The conditions often seem almost incredible in so advanced a commonwealth as the State of New York and they cannot remain uncorrected with safety to the community-at-large."

Because of the limited time and funds available, the Commission said that it "makes no pretense that its findings represent an exhaustive or complete study of the conditions" but presented the following conclusions:

"The economic and social condition of New York's colored population is gravely impaired by forces which threaten not only the security of the colored population itself but also the general welfare of the State as a whole.

"That although some of these conditions are of long standing and must be corrected slowly and gradually, others are open to immediate attack by legislative action and administrative policies and it is the responsibility of your honorable bodies to consider such attack as a matter of emergency importance.

"That the preliminary study on which report is hereby made has revealed the existence of specific situations which are serious enough to require further detailed study. For this purpose it is necessary that the life of the Commission be extended for another year and that additional funds be appropriated by your honorable bodies to insure effective continuance."

Among the conclusions reached by the Commission in its report are that:

"The colored population today suffers more unusually serious economic insecurity. It has never been accorded equal opportunities for employment either by industry, commerce or public utilities, and because of this fact it has suffered from unemployment with severely disproportionate intensity.

### Criticises State

"The State itself in the field of public service employment is not free from criticism with respect to its policies affecting Negro job-applicants. As a result of such restrictions Negro workers are for the most part limited to unskilled, labor and marginal types of employment with large areas of more desirable types of employment firmly barred against them.

"The income status of the colored population is reflected by conditions in New York City where the poorer half of the Negro families earn an average annual income which is less than 50 per cent of the average income earned by the poorer half of the white population. The income of the average Negro family in the State of New York is too low to maintain a healthful and decent standard of living.

"Partly because of low income and partly because of a public acceptance of residential segregation the colored population throughout the State is usually restricted to certain residential areas in each community. Such restrictions have produced scarcity of housing for Negroes, has raised rents beyond reasonable levels of those paid by the white population for similar accommodations. They have forced many Negro families against their will, to occupy dwellings unfit or human habitation.

"Out of this situation of low incomes and improper housing there has developed community bitterness between white and Negro groups, there has been a growth of delinquency and crime and the spread of disease has been encouraged. This has resulted in an enormous tax burden which is borne by the entire population.

"State laws that have been passed formerly have frequently been inadequate to correct these conditions. Public utilities, forbidden by a law of 1933 from discriminating against employment-seekers because of their race or creed, are found to have made no provisions against occurrence of such discrimination, and at least one admits the present continuance of discriminatory policies. The law which presumes to protect workers seeking employment on public works contracts is found to have no adequate machinery for its enforcement.

"The employment practices of several State departments, forbidden by legislative authority to make discrimination between races in the public service are found open to serious question of discrimination against Negro citizens. Reason for these violations of the law lie in the fact that the laws as drawn are not sufficiently specific in prescribing procedure of complaints and redress of grievances nor are they clear in the penalties to be inflicted against offenders. Remedies for these and similar situations lie clearly in the power and responsibility of the legislature.

"Your Commission has been impressed again and again by the reluctance of local civic leaders to remedy unfavorable conditions affecting the colored population and by the frequent indifferences of public officials toward their existence. There is failure to realize either the serious nature of the problem and its importance to the general welfare or the fact that the problem is state-wide in its implications and not confined to special sub-urban or metropolitan areas."

### 13 Legislative Proposals

13 specific legislative proposals were submitted to the State Legislature for remedying conditions contained in the report. In submitting these legislative conditions proposals, the Commission said that it "realizes that there is need for state-wide action beyond what can be accomplished through legislation alone. Laws can set the pattern for community improvement, but they reach maximum effectiveness only with the support of an aroused public opinion which understands their importance. It is to be hoped that thoughtful civic leaders will give consideration to the problems outlined above and the legislative proposals made for their correction, and will lend effective influence to arouse the necessary public support."

Because of the time limit imposed on it the Commission said that it was unable to thoroughly look into the fields of finance, credit and savings, administration of justice and public relief. Among things which it declared it would like to investigate was "The question as to whether relatively more severe sentences are being imposed upon Negroes than upon whites."

Members of the Commission, are: Assemblyman Harold P. Herman, chairman; Assemblyman William T. Andrews, vice-chairman; Rev. Michael Mulvoy, secretary; Senators John J. Howard, Leon A. Fischel and Walter J. Mahoney, Assemblyman Robert W. Justice, Henry Root Stern, Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Haynes, Rev. John H. Johnson, Henri W. Shields and Frances E. Rivers, who tendered his resignation on February 7th because of his appointment as Assistant District Attorney under Thomas E. Dewey.

The Commission's executive staff is composed of Lester B. Granger, executive director; Dean S. Yarborough, research director; Lewis Mayers, counsel; Thomas L. MacDonald and Robert J. Custis, research assistants. Its offices are located at 36 West 44th street, New York City.

## *Paying Back Relief Funds*

A New York Negro taxi driver and his wife have unwittingly taken it upon themselves to teach a sagging world a little lesson in independence.

The taxi driver has had a good deal of hard luck. He had to go to a hospital for several weeks and it cost him a lot of money. During that period he had to accept relief. When he got well he wrote the relief authorities asking how much they had spent on him and how he could go about paying it back. He didn't even get an answer.

Then he had an accident and the cylinder block of his taxi was cracked. The repair bill was beyond his means and again he accepted relief for a few weeks. But now his vehicle is in good repair. On an average he makes two or three dollars a week over expenses, so he and his wife sat down and wrote a joint letter to the relief director. This time he had it attested by a notary public, with the idea that this would help him to get an answer. He got more. He got his story in the newspapers, and let us hope the publicity has brought his taxi into unusual demand on the part of those who appreciate his fine spirit.

To be quite accurate, his wife, when interviewed, took a realistic view of the situation. She agreed that the money ought to be paid back, but since they were behind with the electric light bill and a few other little things she thought these debts should be paid first. But she was willing to go along, if her husband thought best, and pay back the relief money at 50 cents or $1 a week.

It is a source of satisfaction that the Negro driver came from Georgia—down Savannah way—and his wife from Charleston.

Social Conditions, Improvement of - 1938 New York.

## "...Speaking of Cleaning"

BY CHASE

# U.S. To Launch Probe Into Incomes Of Project Tenants

(PHOTO ON PAGE 22)

A searching investigation by the Federal Government into all sources of income of the residents of the Harlem River Houses is soon to be launched, the Amsterdam News learned this week.

"The results of the investigation," it was said, "would open the way for a mass turn-over of tenants in the housing project if it were found that large numbers of tenants have improved their financial condition since their occupancy of the apartments."

Just when the sweeping probe will begin and how it will be made was not disclosed, but it is known that the rules of United States Housing Authority allow a family income up to five times the rental; and in cases of families with four or more children, the income level is raised to six times the rental.

In the meantime, conditions affecting low cost housing for Negroes in the New York City area were disclosed by Chairman Alfred Rheinstein of the local Housing Authority in an exclusive interview with The Amsterdam News. Mr. Rheinstein also addressed the forum of the Harlem River Houses Sunday.

Asked if it was the policy of New York City Housing Authority to integrate Negro mechanics and laborers into the construction of the Red Hook and Queensbridge housing projects, Chairman Rheinstein said:

"It is my attitude that Negro mechanics should be generously employed on housing projects I will seek the cooperation of leaders in the building industry to do that."

Because it had become the practice of landowners and real estate dealers to jack up the price of property overnight if it were known that the Housing Authority intended to put up a project in a given area, he said he could not state if another housing project had been planned for Harlem.

Asked if Negro tenants would be taken into the Red Hook and Queensbridge houses, he answered:

**No Discriminating Rules**

"We have no rules discriminating against Negro and white residents in housing projects. I believe, however, that since housing conditions are more acute among Negroes than any other group here, more projects should be constructed to house them."

"Since taking office on December 16, 1937, I have wanted to come up here and become acquainted with the people and management of this project," Chairman Rheinstein said.

"You have a great obligation to keep these buildings in good physical condition and hand them on to future generations with a good tradition," he told the forum audience.

"This is one of the most thrilling projects. It is well kept and well run. It is a wonderful institution, not only for a Negro project, but for any project for a low income group.

Paying a tribute to Roger W. Flood, resident manager of the Harlem River Houses, Mr. Rheinstein asserted: "With his ability and understanding he has done a superb job here. He has the backing of the Housing Authority one hundred per cent and so far as I can see, he has the backing of the tenants one hundred per cent."

**Check-up By Housing Officials**

The periodic check-up of the tenants and their incomes, which it was said will be made by the United States Housing Authority, a sub-division of the Department of the Interior, will seek to discover among other things:

1. The name of the lessee
2. Nationality (i.e. American, Italian-American, etc.)
3. Race (white or colored)
4. Total number of persons in the family, over 21; 16 to 21; 6 to 16 and under 6:
5. Persons attending public and high schools:
6. Was occupant former resident of the project area?
7. Number of persons in family who are employed:
8. Occupation of principal provider:
9. Occupations of those employed other than the principal provider:
10. Total net family income:
11. Total monthly rent previously paid by tenant.

Already the question is being asked why should the Federal government want to know the race and nationality, if segregation based on color, race, or nationality had not been contemplated or in effect as a matter of policy.

A musical program in which Misses C. Chamberlain, Norma McEwen, and Master William Thompson appeared was a part of the forum arrangements. Cecil C. Holmes, chairman of the forum committee, presided.

# New York State Confab On Negro Welfare Opens

The New York State Conference on Negro Welfare is holding two sessions at the New York State Conference on Social Work which is convening in Syracuse from October 18 to 21.

Among those who have been invited to take part in the program are Robert C. Weaver, Special Assistant, United States Housing Authority; Alfred Edgar Smith, Special Assistant, Federal Works Progress Administration; William T. Andrews, Vice-chairman of the New York State Temporary Commission on the Condition of the Urban Colored Population; George E. Cohron, Manager of the Harlem Office of the Social Security Board; William Evans, Executive Secretary, Buffalo Urban League; Robert J. Elzy, newly appointed Assistant Director of the New York City National Youth Administration; Mrs. Carita V. Roane, Manager of the Harlem Office of the New York State Employment Service; and Samuel A. Allen, Supervisor of Racial Problems, State Department of Social Welfare.

Among the delegates will be A. G. Fallings of the National Youth Administration; Miss Hortense Sanders of the Hudson State Training School for Girls; Mrs. Edith Alexander, New York City Department of Welfare; Mr. Godding of the State Division of Parole; and James H. Baker, New York City Department of Welfare.

The New York State Conference on Negro Welfare will hold its annual election of officers at its session on Wednesday, October 19.

# PROVIDES MANY PLACEMENTS FOR NEGRO CHILDREN

## Facilities for Work Has Also Increased

Increased facilities are being provided for the placement of dependent Negro children in New York City, Better Times, weekly official organ of the Welfare Council of New York City, said in a front page item last week.

"Provisional plans have been completed for the establishment of a Service Bureau for Negro Children to carry on foster home placement," Better Times declared, adding:

"This agency would work closely with the Children's Court, Department of Welfare and various social agencies in initiating a program of foster home placement, supplementing, rather than duplicating, the work of existing agencies."

Explaining how the bureau came to be organized, Better Times said: "Publication of several reports showing inadequacy of services for placement of Negro children resulted in a series of joint conferences last year between interested persons associated with the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies and the Welfare Council.

"The proposed Service Bureau would be designed not only to set standards for future placement but to deal intensively with the problem of providing medical and social services for the Negro children placed by the bureau and their families."

# Harlemites Planning For Annual Red Cross Roll Call, Nov. 11-24

Organization of the Harlem Division for the annual membership Roll Call of New York Chapter, American Red Cross, is progressing rapidly Mrs. Blanche Glover, division chairman, announced this week.

Associated as vice-chairmen are Mrs. Emma Ferguson and Mrs. May DuPort. In urging strong Harlem enrollment to support the Red Cross during its Roll Call between Armistice Day and Thanksgiving, Mrs. Glover issued this chapter statement:

"When hurricane and flood brought the year's worst disaster to our doors, we had personal reason to appreciate the Red Cross. It responded promptly with help. Red Cross workers aided in rescues. Red Cross emergency funds quickly provided food, shelter and clothing for storm victims. The Red Cross raised funds to restore, for those with no resources, their homes and means of earning a living.

"Once more we see the benefit of having this experienced, permanent disaster relief agency, always ready to aid. Let us continue to maintain

# Actress Horrified By Slums

**The camera caught Mary Pickford in unusual surroundings, as shown here, where she made an inspection tour of Washington, N. Y. slums during a recent visit to the Capital. A look of horror can be seen on the actress' face.**

it. The Red Cross is entirely dependent on helpful services. voluntary support.

"Our Red Cross is more than a disaster relief agency. Its New York Chapter cared for 12,000 disabled, needy veterans during the past year, obtaining employment for 1,600. The Chapter gave free training in first aid, life saving and home nursing to thousands of Manhattan-Bronx men and women. It gave nutrition guidance to 1,200. Chapter Volunteers served freely in 14 hospitals, made 1,000,000 surgical dressings and 24,000 relief garments. They brailled books for the blind, distributed 100,000 magazines to hospitals, provided Christmas cheer. The Chapter gives other

"Every dollar given to the hurricane relief fund went to aid the storm victims, not to support the Red Cross